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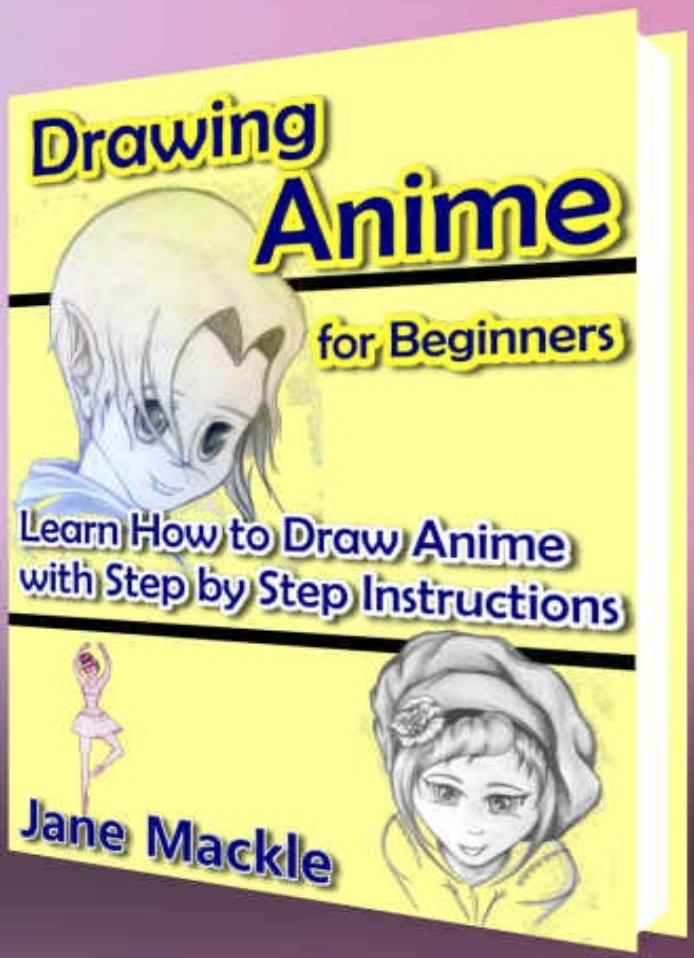

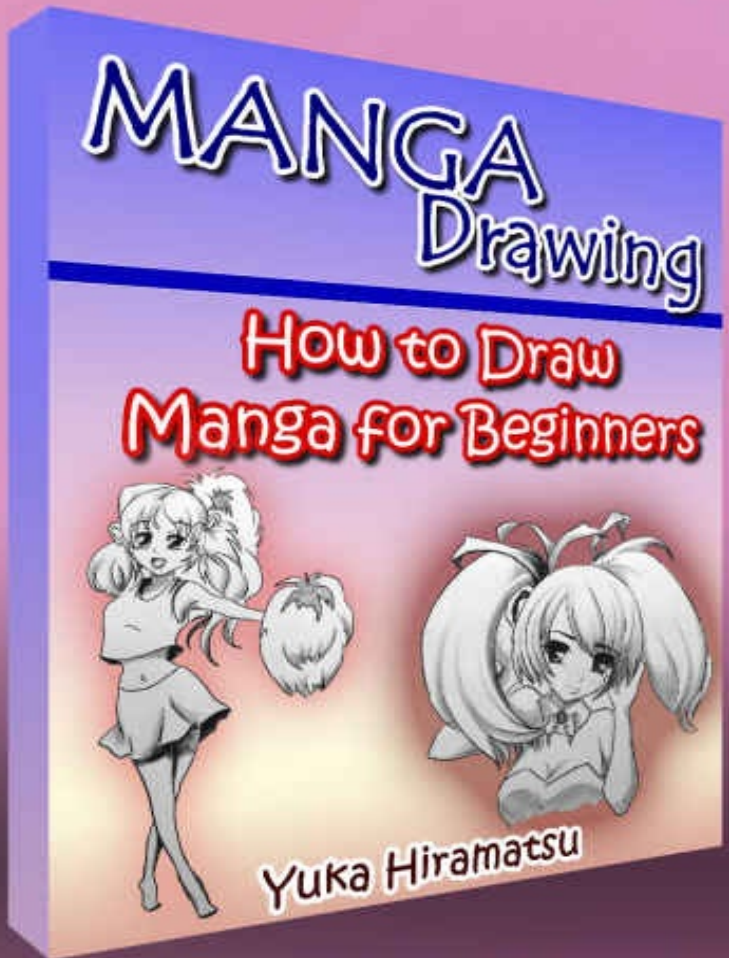

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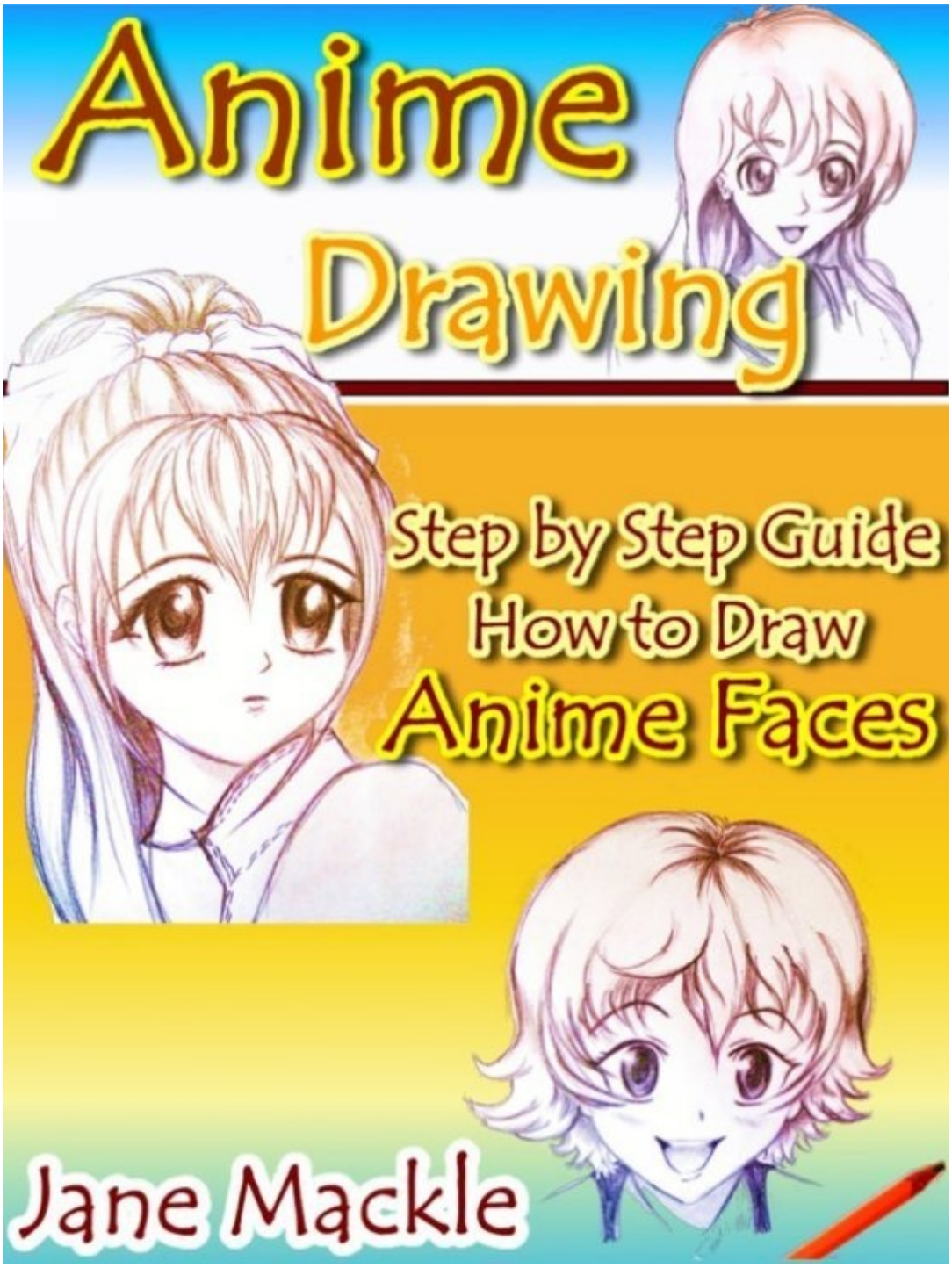
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Anime Drawing

Step by Step Guide How to Draw Anime Faces

By Jane Mackle

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Introduction

Though anime has originated from Japan, but the popularity of anime characters knows no bounds. This book is written keeping in mind the amateur artists of anime. If you have read the Part-1 of this book, you must be aware of the basics of anime drawings. That book has the simpler anime character drawings. '**Anime Drawing-Step by Step Guide How to Draw Anime Faces'** is the sequel of the book: '**Drawing Anime for Beginners-Learn How to Draw Anime**

with Step by Step Instructions!'

Even if you have not read the previous part, you will not face any difficulty in drawing anime characters. You just have to drill yourself somewhat more. The step by step drawings have been explained in full detail so that even if you have missed some things in your drawing career, you will learn many new things in this book. The drawing of eyes and hair has been given special emphasis in the book.

The book is divided into two sections. The first section consists of some theory about the general things you need to know about anime. When you read about the attributes of the characters, you will notice that you are at more ease in drawing the characters. The anime characters have a distinct look in their individual personalities. These changes can be easily achieved by slight modifications in the facial expressions or clothing etc.

We strongly recommend that you read the section 1 first before you move further to the tutorials. We can ensure you that you will explore a new artist in you.

Section 1

Chapter 1 - What is Anime?

You must have heard about the Japanese animation. The word “anime” has originated from Japan only. It refers to the Japanese animated characters. The anime characters these days are widely created on computers. But, the charm of hand drawn characters is still no less.

Anime began in the early 20th century but it actually took off in the late 20th century. It has adapted itself to the needs of its international audience.

Genres of Anime

It is a varied form of art. It can be classified into various genres such as:

Action: The characters of this genre are extremely active. You will find a lot of hue and cry in this genre. Some examples of action anime are *One Piece, Bleach, Naruto, Sword Art Online,* etc.

Slice of Life or Comedy: This genre consists of many types of jokes such as dirty jokes, clean jokes romantic comedy and parody jokes. The characters are mostly shown in real life setting. Examples include *AzumangaDaioh, Nichijou, Great Teacher Onizuka, Angel Beats, School Rumble, and Little Busters.*

Tragedy or Drama: The characters of this genre are intense by nature. The dramatic dialogues and the emotional setting is a typical characteristic of this genre. Some examples are: *Chuunibyou demo Koi gaShitai!, Nana, Kanon, and Clannad.*

Psychological: The characters of this genre are intelligent. The shows may also be based on horror and mystery. For example, *Elfen Lied, AnotherWelcome to the NHK, ,Mirai Nikki, Neon Genesis Evangelion and Psycho-Pass.*

History: The shows are based on the past times of all cultures and communities. For

example: *World Masterpiece Theater*, *Animated Classics of Japanese Literature*.

Mecha or Military: It consists of science fiction robots in mecha and military characters in Military genre. For example, *Gundam, Code Geass and Macros.*

Magic or Supernatural: They have a fictitious setting of characters and cannot be described by static science. For example, *Strike Witches*, *Ah My Goddess!*, *Puella Magi MadokaMagica*

Romance: The regular romantic stories and characters in real life as well as fictitious settings are typical of this genre. For example: *ItazuranaKiss*,*Suki-tte Ii Nayo*, *Kaichouwa Maid-sama*, *Isshukan Friends*, *ValkyriaChronicles*.*and* *Kare Kano*.

Chapter 2 Attributes of Anime Characters

There are so many colors, techniques and styles involved in anime characterization that we cannot limit it to a specific boundary. The wide arena of anime genres has thousands of characters, many of which have unique attributes. We have listed a few common attributes that will help you to start drawing anime characters.

Facial expressions

Many expressions and moods of anime characters are shown in the shows. Some of the common facial positions include side view and front view. Some characters are also shown from the high or low angles.

You will notice in the drawings in the chapters that follow that anime characters have an amplified shape of the **eyes,** with large irises or white portion of the eyes. Most of the expressions are drawn with the help eyes only. The cornea is given exaggerated depth. You can use different tones of a color to draw the eyes. The glitter in their eyes is shown significantly.

The **hair styles** of anime characters very stylish. They are unnaturally bouncy and are shown in different colors. Many expressions and movements of the characters are depicted through the exaggerated movement of hair. The “action of the hair” is also used to add visual effects to the setting.

The **mouth** of anime characters is often simple shaped and not very detailed. The lips are depicted only through some shading. A simply curved tongue and the open mouth can convey anxiety or trauma. We can also use some speed lines to convey yelling.

Emotions

Some typical facial expressions include a sweat drop on the side of the face, a male character’s bleeding from the nose when he is aroused, redness of cheeks to express embarrassment and an intense glitter in the eyes.

Section 2

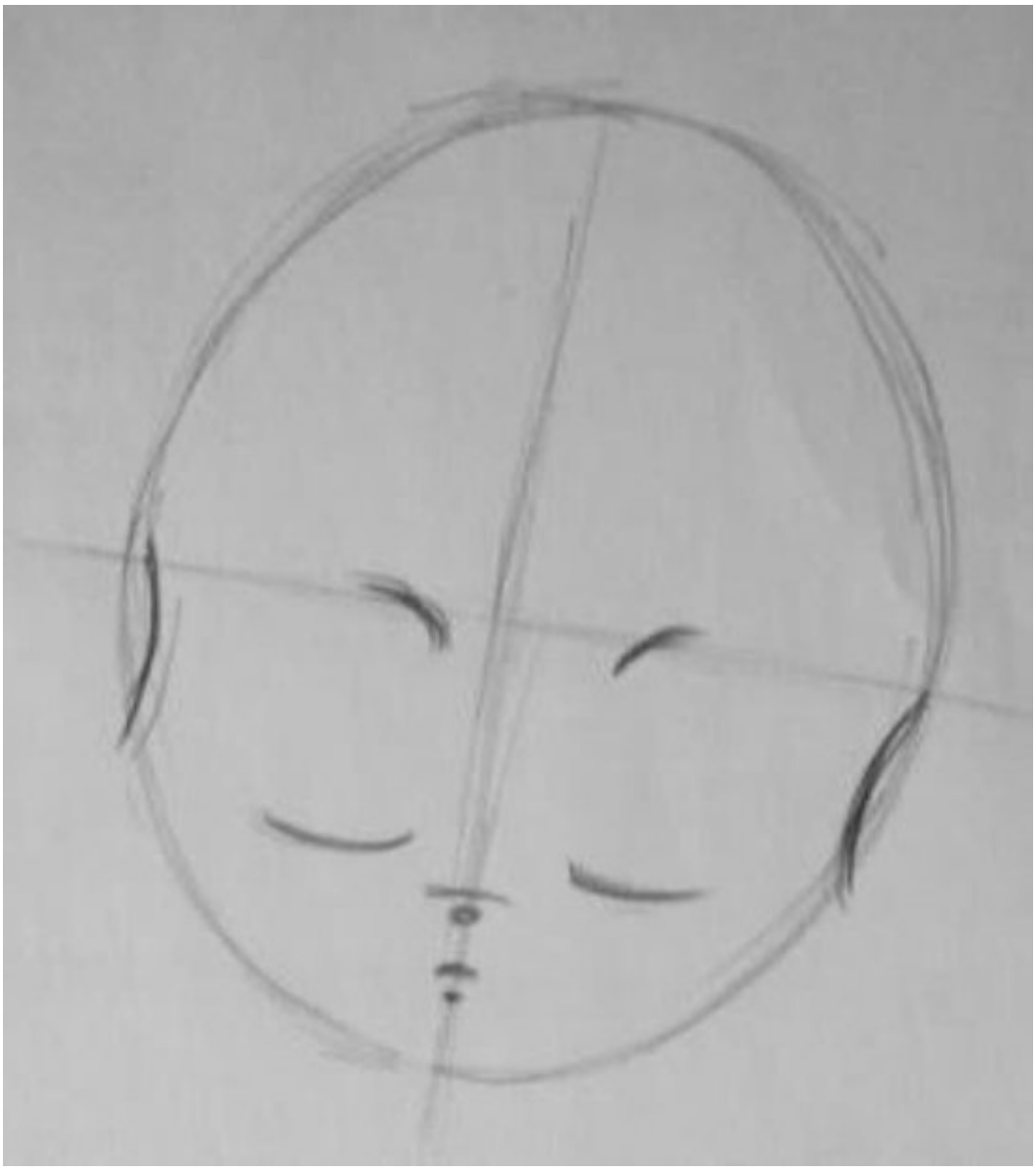
Chapter 1 How to Draw a Little Girl?

To start with, we will draw the face of a little anime girl. Children arenaturallycute, despite the nation they belong to. As you might have observed in other animation characters, the looks of children are deliberately made cute with a little exaggeration. Here also, we will do the same. Let us name this cute girl as “Yui”. We will call her by this name throughout this chapter.

Step 1

Draw an oval shaped basic outline for the face of little Yui. The face is tilted a little on the right.

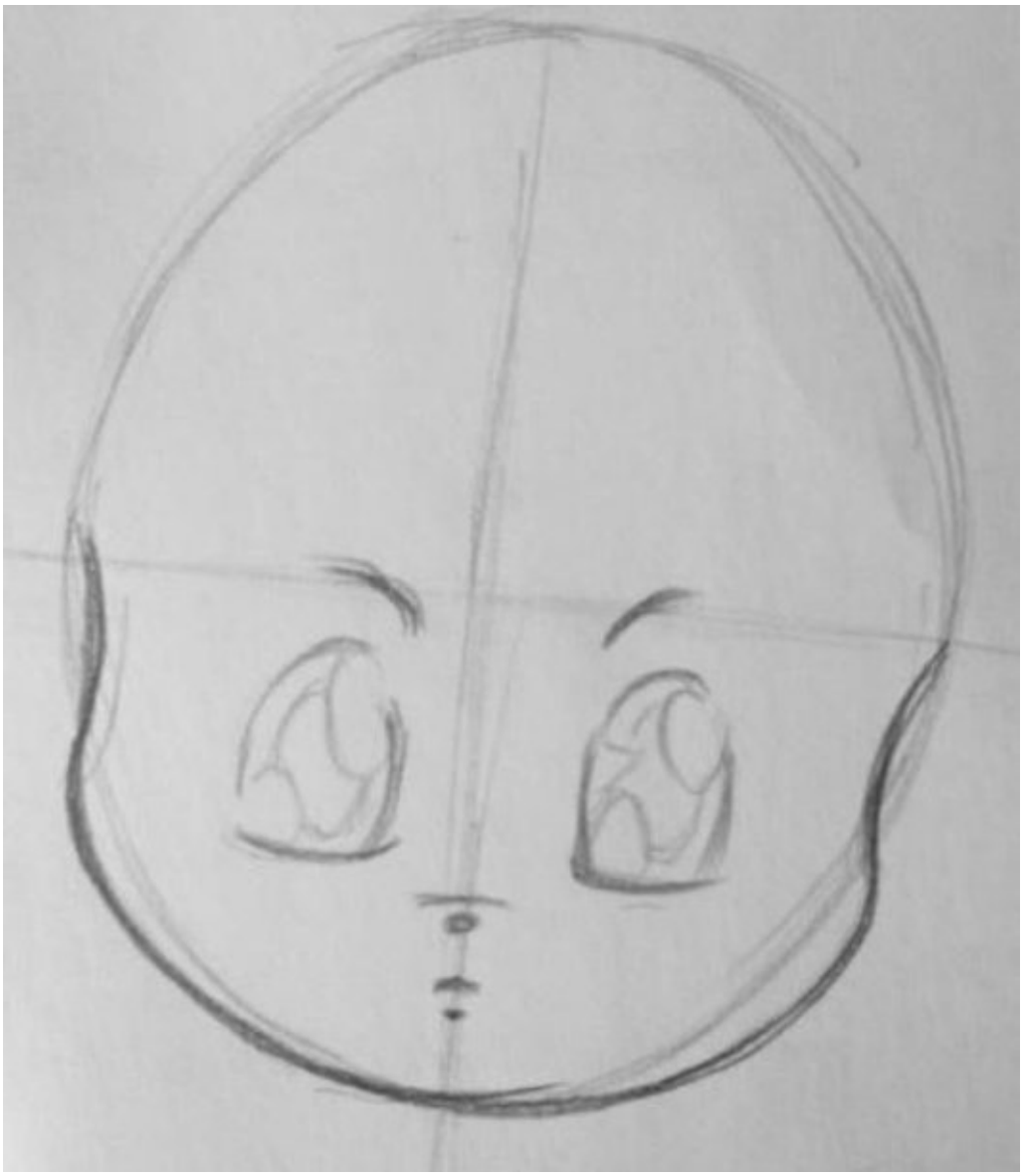
Draw simple lines to mark her features of the face as well. Mark her placement of ears. The proportion of the face and the placement of the features are not according to the normal human standards of a human face. Thus, we can take the liberty of going a little out of proportion.



Step 2

Transform the oval into the shape of the face from the area of chin and ears. Draw the shape of the eyes. Mark three small ovals inside the eyes- two ovals for the glitter in the eyes and one oval for the iris or eye ball. You must have noticed that children have extremely glittery eyes. That is why we have marked two large ovals for the shine in the eyes instead of making just one.

Enhance the shape of the eyebrows a little.

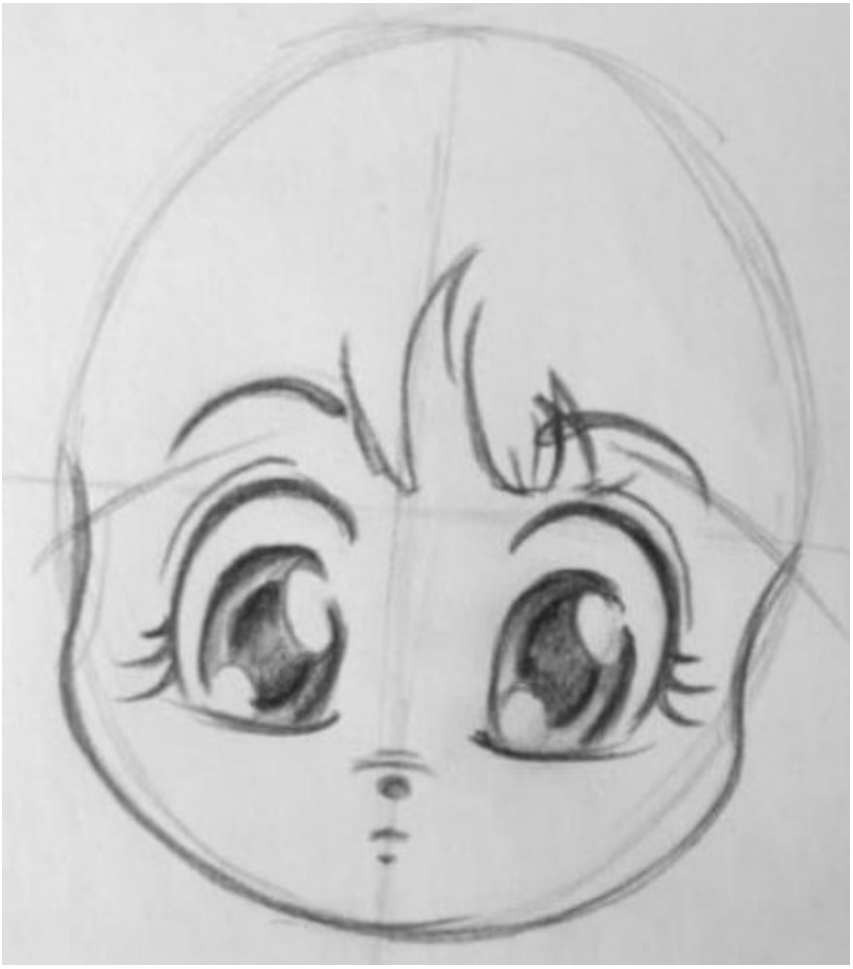


Step 3

Darken the shading of the eye ball and the white area or sclera of the eye. Notice the difference in gradation of shading in the eye. Maintain that difference. Darken and thicken the outline of the eye. Draw only three eyelids of Yui in succession with each other. Complete the eyebrows in this step.

Mark the outline for hair that we will make in the next step. Some fringes on the forehead make children look sweet. Thus, we have drawn some heavy fringes for Yui on her forehead.

The eyebrows will be covered under the fringes. Thus, complete the eyebrows in this step only because enhancing them later will give an unnatural look to the face.



Step 4

Draw the ears of Yui. They are made small and are curved on the outside. Enhance the outline of the face. Mark the outer boundary of the hair where the topmost line of the hairdo will be drawn.

Step 5

Draw two mini buns on the head. They are also called “ox horns” in generic terms. Look at the dent given on top of the buns. You can also make any such hairstyle which is popular in kids. However, in this hairstyle, notice the flow and partition of hair that we have given.

The fringes are made even heavier in this step. Many fringes are falling on the eyebrows and some are nearly touching the corners of the eyes. Look at the specially drawn outgrown hair at the partition and crown of the head. They give the quality of childish hair to those of Yui’s.

Step 6

Give depth to the mini buns of Yui. The buns are drawn in two layers. Thus, the flow of hair in the buns should be carefully drawn. The hairs have a shape of closed circle in both the buns. Make them carefully.

Do not commit the mistake of overlapping the hair again and again. Hair drawings have to be created in only one stroke of lines. If you try to draw a line for a strand of hair, realize that it is wrong, erase it and then redraw it; you will never achieve the quality of undulating hair. Thus, practice them separately if you think that you are not perfect at drawings hairs yet.

Step 7

Since, we had made the face a little tilted in the beginning.Notice that now it gives the look of amazement to Yui.

The hairs are given a finishing touch in this step. The partition is made a little deeper and the fringes and the bump on the head are drawn.

To signify the rosy cheeks of Yui, we have drawn the small sleeping oval like shapes on both the cheeks.

Draw the clothing of this cute little girl. Since we are focusing just on the face, the clothing is not drawn in much detail.

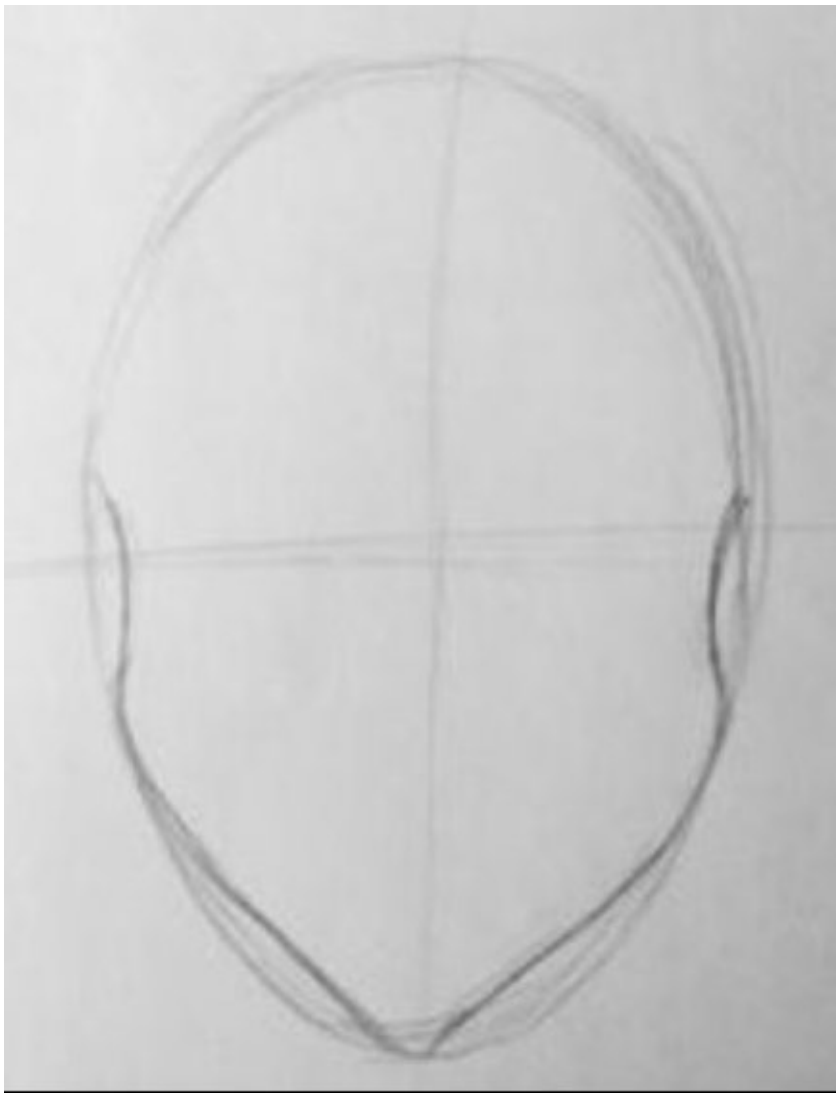
Give finishing touches to the shading and drawing. The drawing of little anime girl, Yui, is ready.

Chapter 2 How to Draw a Maiden?

Maidens in anime shows are depicted with extremely cute attributes. They often attract affection from their fellow characters as well as the viewers. In this chapter, we are going to draw a beautiful maiden. Like we did in drawing the little girl in chapter 1, we will give special attention in drawing this maiden's eyes and hairs.

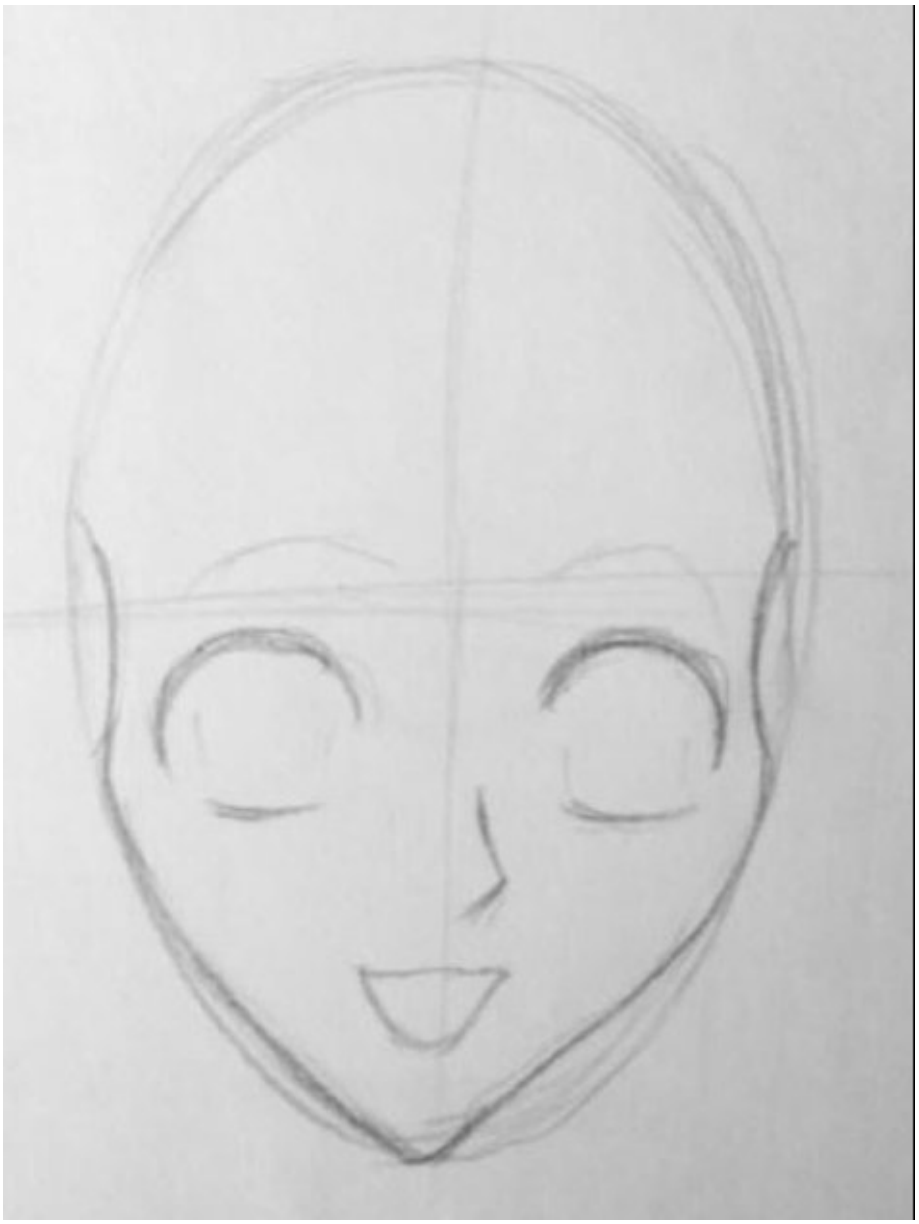
Step 1

Draw an oval first, for the basic outline. Then, modify the oval from its base to draw the shape of chin. Draw a "+" sign for the placement of the features of the face.



Step 2

Draw the outlines for the features of the face to mark their placement. The eyes are drawn larger than life to express depth, which is a specialization of anime characters. The mouth is made smaller than normal size.

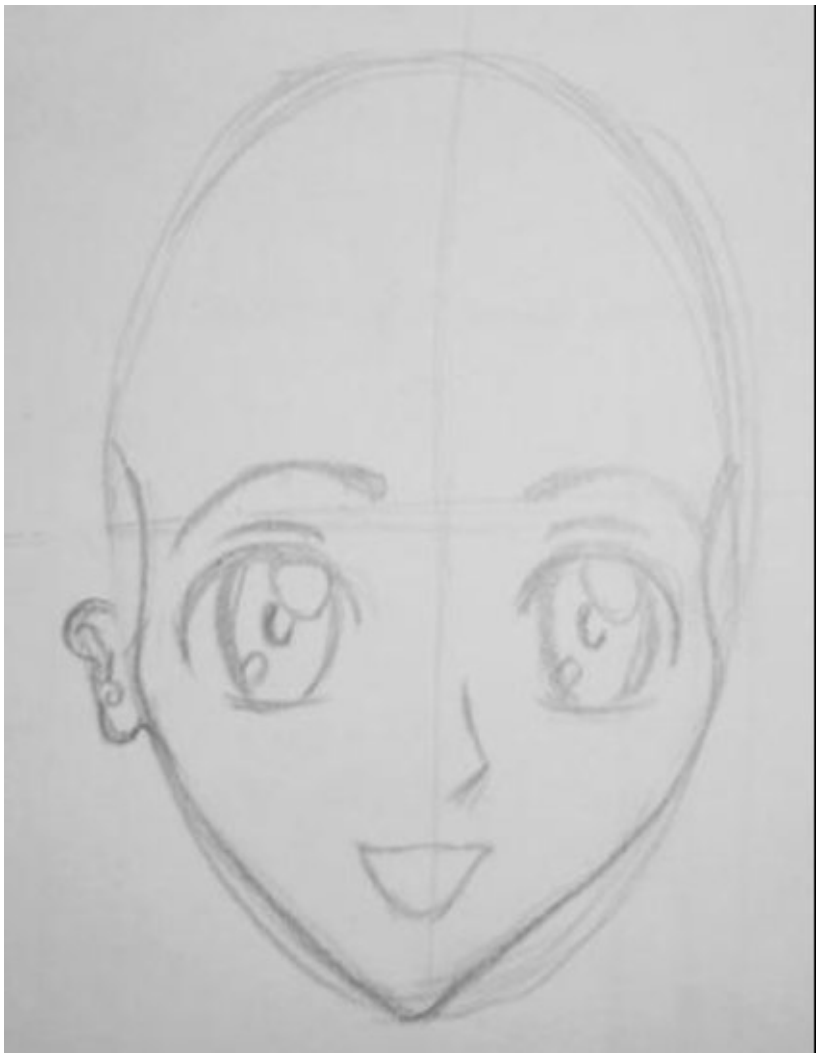


Step 3

Draw three circles in the eyes of this maiden. One circle is larger than the other two. The largest one is for the glitter in the eyes. The middle one is for the eyeball or iris. And the third small circle is also for the glitter.

Remember that we had drawn bigger ovals for Yui in chapter 1 because kids have more glitter than the adults. This maiden also has a lot of shine in her eyes, but we have depicted it a little less than the kids.

Draw the outline for her ear and eyebrows as well. We have drawn only one ear because the second ear will be covered by the hair in the upcoming steps.



Step 4

Give an outline of the hair of the girl. The length of the hair is long and is falling on the shoulders of the girl. The hairs on the forehead are not drawn as fringes, but they are still falling on the forehead. Many hairs are coming from the sides of the head on the face. This look of the hair gives a delicacy to her overall appearance.

Sharpen the shape of her chin. It is more pointed than normal.

Complete the necessary shape of the eyebrows.

Step 5

Sharpen the outline of the hair around the face. Remember that the strands of the hair have to be made in a single stroke.

Draw the clothing of the maiden. A simple top is shown with minimalistic lines since our focus in this drawing is her face and not her clothing. But, we cannot ignore the clothing completely. Thus, very careful but minimum lines are drawn to draw the clothing.

Step 6

Darken the hair and give depth to them wherever necessary. When you are giving this depth, be careful not to overlap the lines drawn before. Draw new lines to complete this step. Some chunks of the hair are over or under each other. Draw such chunks carefully.

Notice that the outer layer of the hair is not given much shading but the inner layer near the neck is shaded darkly. This difference in gradation gives a natural look to the maiden.

Give a little shading under the chin for the shadow of the face.

Step 7

Complete the shading in the eyes of the maiden. Leave the largest and smallest oval for the glitter. Darken the mid-size oval for the iris or the eyeball. Notice that the outer line of the eye around the eyeball is the darkest. The baseline under the eyeball is slightly lighter than the rest of the outline.

Step 8

Highlight the lines of the clothing of the girl. Give well blended shading on the neck and th collar bones.

Shade the nose with just a little shading outside the lines of the nose.

Give shading in the mouth. The mouth is also not given much detail. The lips are not specifically depicted. But the corners of the mouth are darkened and a hint of depth is given through light shading.

Now, give finishing touches to the maiden. Darken and lighten the shading wherever necessary.

Chapter 3 How to Draw a Teenage Girl?

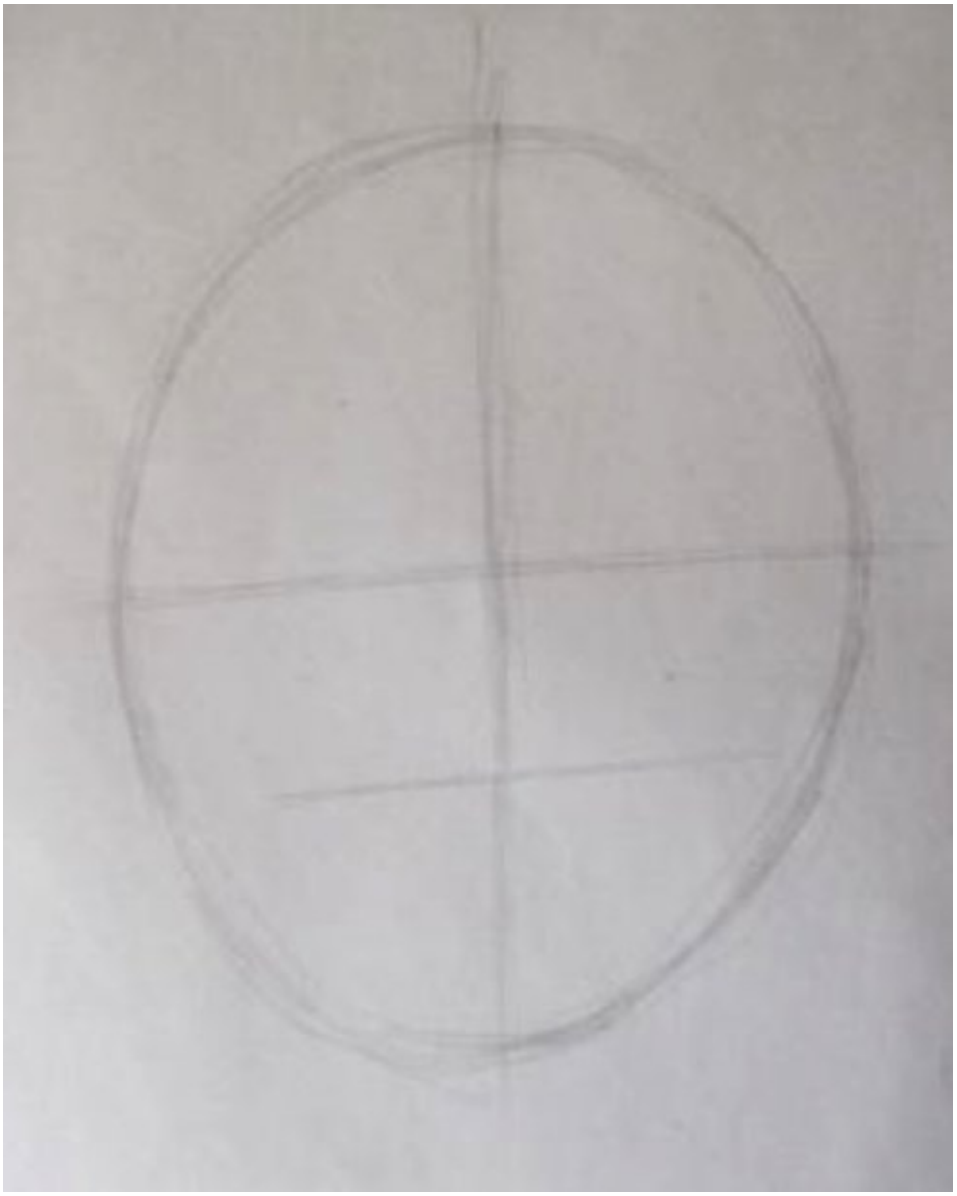
In the previous chapters also, we have learnt how to draw anime girls in different age groups. Here also, we will learn how to draw a teenage anime girl.

As you already know, we will give special emphasis on the eyes. But, this time, the eyes will be made with the look of a little sadness and thoughtfulness.

The hairs in this sketch are also drawn in a little difficult fashion. You will have to be very careful while drawing the strands of the hair and the hair accessory. Let us start.

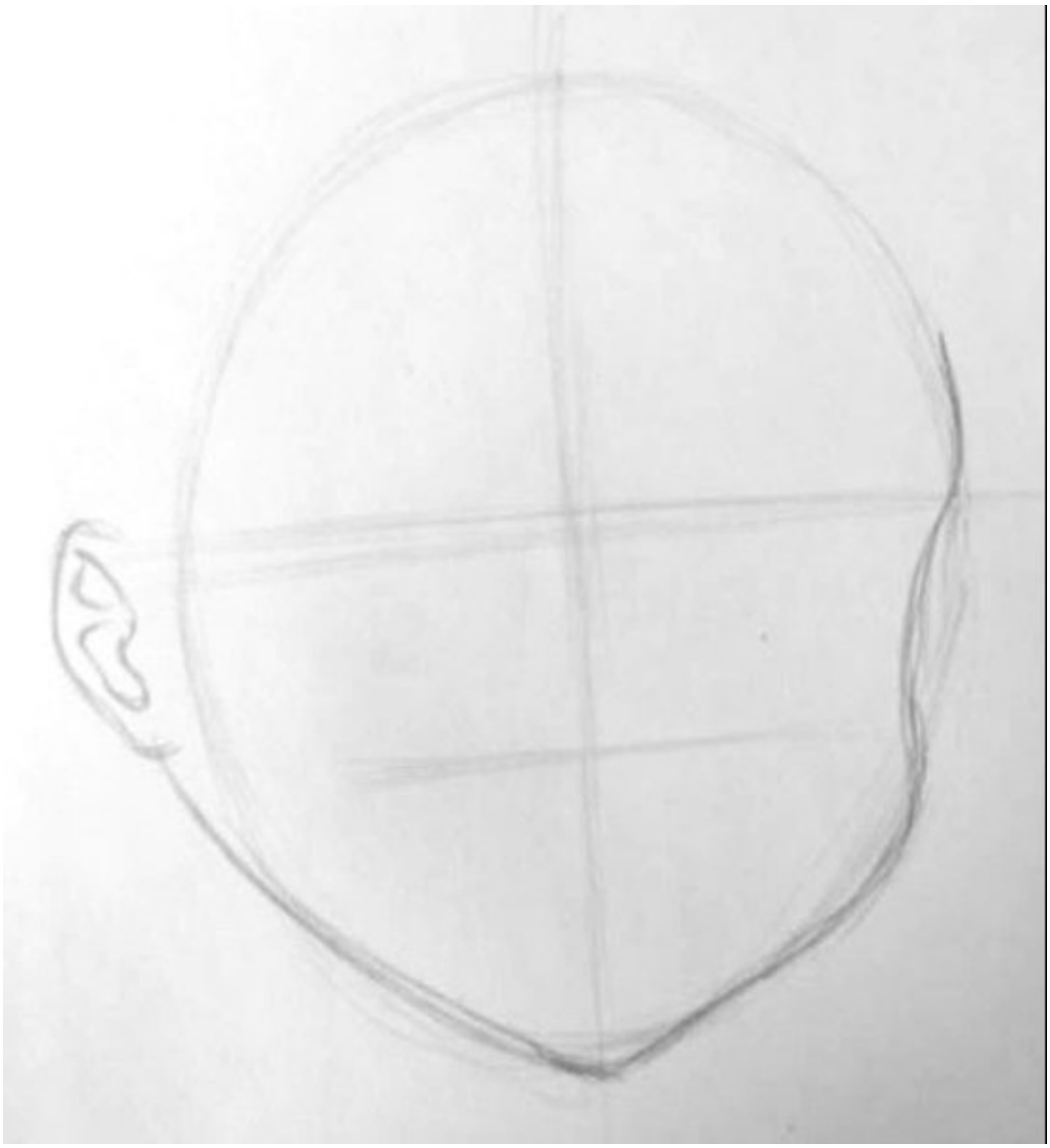
Step 1

Draw an oval shaped outline for the face. Draw a “+” for marking the placement of the features of the face.



Step 2

Modify the shape of the face from the area of chin and eye as required. Draw the outline of the ear as well. As we did in the previous chapter, only one ear is drawn because the other ear will be covered by the hairdo later.



Step 3

Mark the placement of the eyes, eyebrows, nose and mouth. Notice that the shapes of the eyes and eyebrows are made deliberately drooping. Such shapes of the eyes and eyebrows are used to signify sadness.

Step 4

Draw a big semi-circle over the head. This semi-circle will be used as a base line for drawing the hairs in different layers.

Step 5

Draw the outline of the hairs. The hairstyle of the girl is drawn in three layers. The first layer consists of heavy hairs falling on the forehead as well as covering the sides of the face. It covers one ear of the girl. Notice the chunk of hair falling on the center of the forehead. It is slightly longer than the rest of the fringes.

The second and middle layer is tied with a ribbon. It consists of neatly drawn strands. Give details to only second layer and draw it neatly.

The third layer comes after the ribbon. Just draw the outline of this layer. We will give details to it later.

Step 6

Draw detailed strands of hair in the second and third layer. Darken these layers and leave the ribbon for lighter drawing of lines. The ribbon is given slight details with just a few lines, which show the cloth and a knot in the center. Notice the hair falling on the shoulders. The beauty of the length is given by undulating lines. The ear is crafted creatively revealing out of the hair.

The inner side of the hair near the neck is given darker shading than the outer side. You have done this thing in the previous chapter.

Draw the outline for the clothing in this step. It is a shirt with a girlish collar.

Step 7

In this step, you have to shade the eyes and the eyebrows. You can also draw the eyebrows when you are drawing the fringes on the forehead so that you do not overlap both the lines.

To begin shading, shade the outer and upper line of the eye first. Minute eyelashes are also drawn on this outer line. Now, proceed to the shading of the eye ball. Leave the two small ovals which signify the glitter in the eyes. The pupil or the black portion of the eyeball is shaded carefully. The shine of the eyes and the pupil almost merge with each other on one hand, but they also stand apart when looked at carefully. Notice that the lowest oval of the glitter blends well with the darkness of the eyeball.

The depth in the eyes of this teenage girl comes due to the amazing shading of the eyes. The lower base line of the eye is also drawn with slight darkness. The lower eyelashes are also drawn minutely. Notice that the corners of the eyes are crafted beautifully with the upper outer line of the eyes.

Step 7

The nose is left almost intact with the outline. Only slight shading is required for the nose.

Give a little shading to the lips.

Draw the stitches on the collar of the girl’s clothing. You need not give any shading to the sleeves. Less emphasis is given on the clothing, lips and nose so that the hairs and the eyes are highlighted properly.

Chapter 4 How to Draw a Cheerful Girl?

Step 1

Draw an oval shape to draw a broad outline of the face of a girl. Draw two parallel lines in the lower half portion of the oval. These parallel lines are given for drawing the two big and cheerful eyes in place. They will ensure that you make the eyes equal and congruent to each other. Draw the outline of the eyes. The eyes are made sharp in the corners, which will help to express the cheerfulness easily. Draw the outline of the mouth.

Refine the shape of the oval from the bottom, in the shape of chin and jaw line.

Step 2

Draw the eyebrows.Draw the ovals for the eyeballs.

Step 3

Draw a light outline for the hairstyle. A very bouncy look has been given to the hair of the girl. Many hairs are falling on her face and some are covering the face from the sides. A center partition is given which enhances the bumpy look of the hairstyle.

Draw a few inner details of the mouth. In this step, all the lines are drawn with minimum pressure on the pencil so that the heavier lines do not show up in the final step.

Step 4

Darken the best outlines of the hairstyle. Do not erase. Darken the outlines of the eyes as well. Draw a few eyelids.

Give shape to the shoulders and neckline.

Step 5

Draw a concentric oval in each eye ball. Darken the inner oval, leaving space for the shine of the eyes. Notice that the shine is exceeding the boundary of eye balls and is covering a small part of the sclera or the white portion of the eye. This has been done intentionally because we are drawing a cheerful girl. And, the cheerfulness can be shown at its best only through the eyes. That is why the glitter has been given more emphasis in this anime girl.

Step 6

Darken the outer concentric oval of the eye ball, excluding the shine. Maintain the quality of the outline of the eyes while shading. Generally, the eyeballs touch the outline of the eyes or they are drawn inside the outline. You would have noticed in the previous chapters that we always say that “draw the ovals or the eyeballs partially”. But, in this case, the eye balls are fully revealed because the character illustrated is very excited about something and has opened her eyes completely.

Give a final touch to the eyebrows because we will draw the hairs that will partially cover the eyebrows later. The eyebrows should not overlap the hair.

Step 7

Give shading in the mouth of the girl. Darken the corners; keep the upper area of the mouth bare to imply the teeth and shade the lower area in a light tone to imply the tongue. Thicken the outline of the mouth. Draw a small arc below the mouth to imply the fold of the lower lip.

Step 8

Darken the corners of the hairs where the chunks are ending. The outer folds of the hair are drawn with a few rough lines. Notice that the corners of the hair chunks are not made with just one line. If that would have been the case, the hair might have looked artificial. That is why; the ends of the hair are drawn with a mix of dark and light lines.

Give depth to the partition of the hair in the center.

Step 9

Draw to straps of the t-shirt the girl is wearing. Give shape to the neckline.

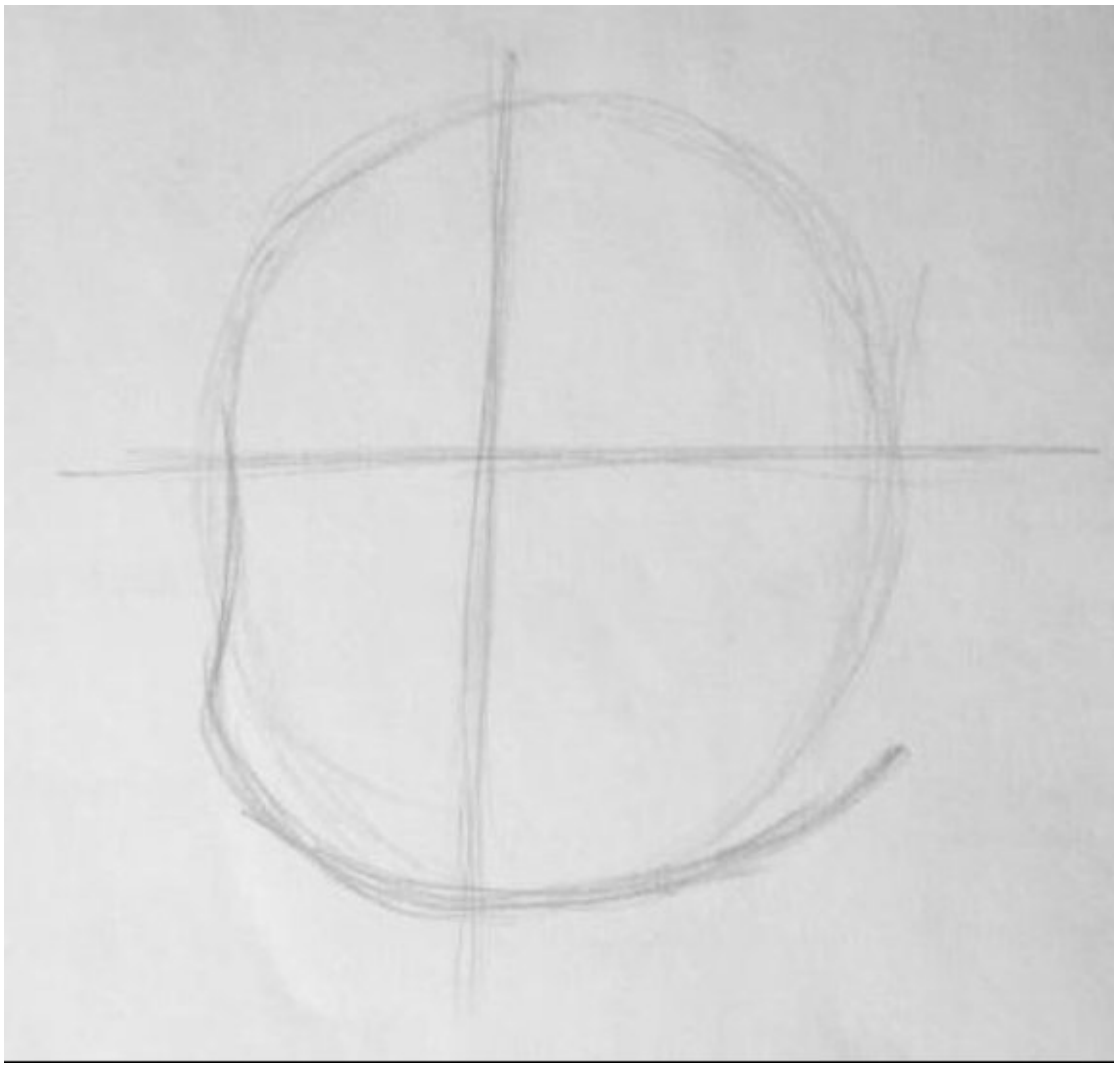
Give finishing touches to the face of the girl. Darken and lighten the shading wherever necessary.

The cheerful anime girl is ready.

Chapter 5 How to Draw a Winking Girl?

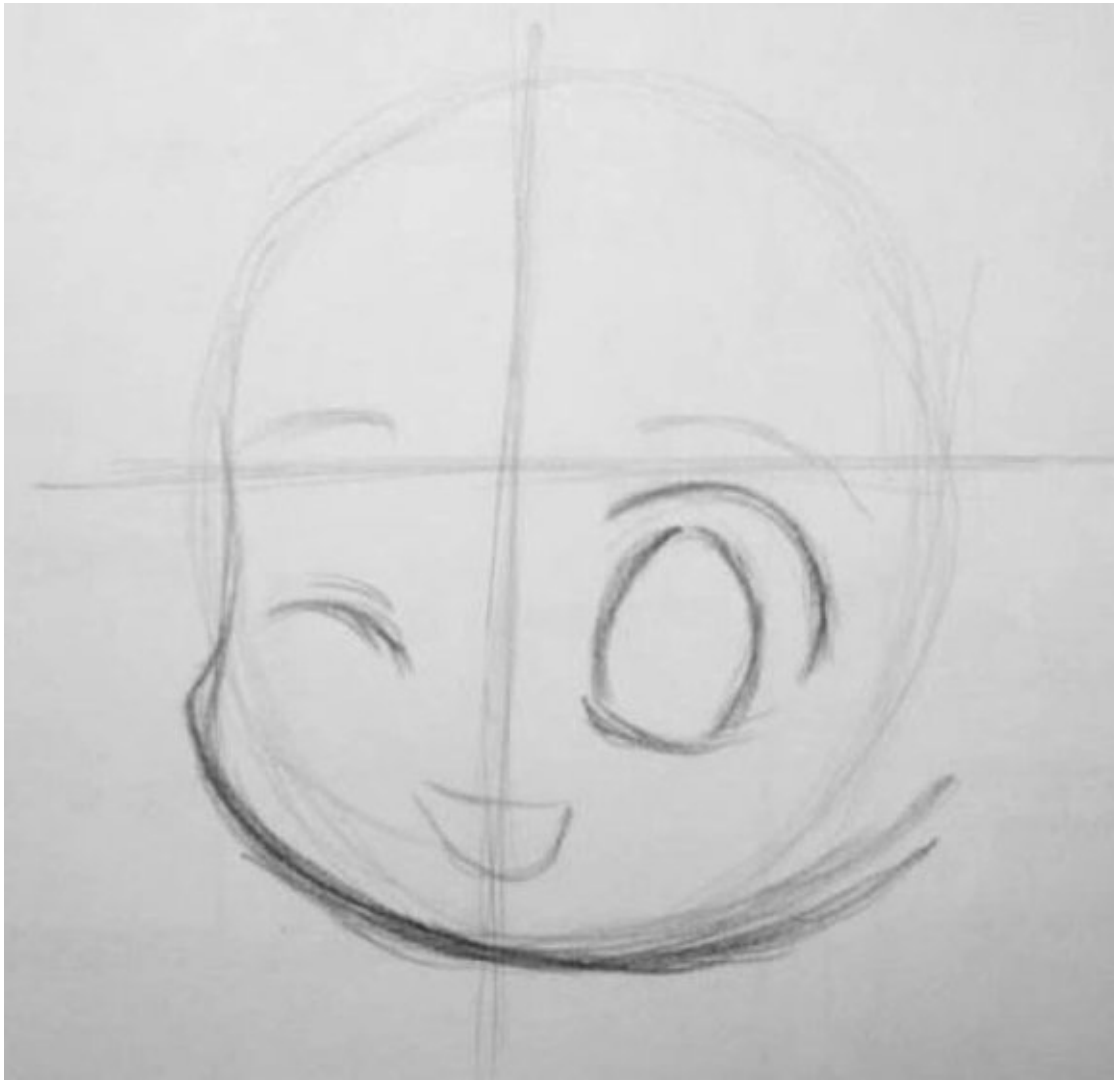
Step 1

Draw an oval shape for a rough outline of the face of a winking girl. Refine the lower portion of the face to draw chin and jaw line.



Step 2

Draw one eye completely and draw the other eye closed. The closed eye can be easily depicted through an arc. Draw the outline of the mouth.



Step 3

Darken the outline of the eye. Draw a circle inside the white portion or sclera of the eye. Draw an oval lying between the sclera and the iris or eye ball. This oval will be used for depicting shine of the eye.

Draw the outline of the hairstyle and the partition of the hair.

Draw the outline for the ear. Only one ear is shown because the other ear is hidden on the left side due to the angle of the face.

Step 4

Give shape to the hairstyle and draw a complete elongated partition between the hairs. A few swirling hairs are also drawn on the forehead.

Step 5

Give shape to the pony tail on the right side of the face. Partially draw the pony tail on the left. The pony tails should be given a bouncy and curly shape.

Step 6

Darken the outline of the hair. Notice that the hairs have been drawn with a few rough lines like we did in the previous chapter. The boundary of the hair on the forehead is also drawn with undulating curves.

Give finishing touch to the ear.

Step 7

Draw the curved lines moving outwards in the partition of the hair. Draw the curved lines in the pony tails and the tied-up section of the hairs as well. Notice the quality of outward curves that have been given in the lines. Without this quality, it is difficult to give a realistic look to the hairs.

Step 8

Give some more slightly darker shading to the hairs. You can also take the help of criss-cross but curved lines in some parts of the hairstyle. Keep some variation in the shading while using criss-cross lines.

Step 9

Give shading to the eye that is open. Keep the eye ball darker. Shade the sclera or the white portion with darkness on the outside and lightness on the inside. Exclude shine while shading the eye. Darken the arc above the eye.

Give slight shading in the mouth.

Step 10

Draw two curved lines on the cheeks to signify the dimples on the face of this chubby girl.

Step 11

Draw the straps of the frock that the girl is wearing. Give shading to the neck. The body is drawn smaller in proportion with the face.

Give finishing touches to the face. Darken and lighten the shading wherever necessary.

The winking anime girl is complete.

Conclusion

Now that you have read the introductory chapters and the tutorials, you must be feeling that it is not that difficult to draw anime characters. We gave you the section 1 to read so that it becomes easy for you to get your hands on the drawing section. Reading some content about something makes it easier to move further. We had explained the theory section of anime in much more detail in the Part-1 of this book (‘**Drawing Anime for**

Beginners- Learn How to Draw Anime

with Step by Step Instructions!’). You can refer to that book also if you want to learn the basics in more detail.

You can take your learning to a different level by watching some specific anime shows. Follow a couple of characters and try to draw them. You can also collect the pictures and draw a character in different settings with varied expressions. A vast set of career opportunities is there in anime. The animation industry these days welcomes anyone who is creative and dynamic.

The tutorials mentioned in this book are designed in such a manner that you do not face any difficulty in beginning or concluding the drawings. We hope that you enjoyed this book. Keep exploring!

T

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Anime
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Introduction

Anime is not just Japanese animation; it is much more than that. When you read further, you will get to know a lot about anime. This eBook is written keeping in mind the beginners of anime drawing. Even if you are an expert in other genres of drawings, you will find a lot of help from this book in exploring the concept of anime.

In this book, we have just introduced you to the drawings of anime. After you draw from the tutorials, you can explore anime yourself further. The drawing section is further divided into two parts. Firstly two male drawings are taught and then two female drawings are taught. It is done so that you can learn drawing the details of the face first. Then, we can move ahead to the drawing of complete anime body.

When you read further, you will find a chapter on the attributes of anime characters. That chapter is very crucial from the point of view of drawing the features of the characters. Anime sketches have a distinct look in their personality. That personality comes to the fore only with the help of slight changes in the attributes.

There is a stigma attached to the anime shows. We have tried to explore the history and social conventions of Japan to the depth in this book so that you can realize why anime characters look the way they look. They are truly inspired from the Japanese culture with some exaggeration, of course. We have tried our best to make you aware of the concept of anime before you sit down to draw them. It becomes really easy for an artist to draw any genre of art if he knows a little bit of history about it.

If reading before drawing is a new concept to you, we highly recommend that you try it this time. Go through the reading section before you jump to the tutorials. We guarantee that you will explore a new artist in you.

Section 1

Chapter 1 - What is Anime?

You might have heard this term “Anime”. Pronounced as *a-ne-may,* it refers to the Japanese animated characters. These computer animated characters are widely popular in hand drawings as well. Anime refers to all the animations of Japan. It is derived from the word “rōmaji *animēshon”*.

The initial phase of Japanese animation started in 1917. It got international fame in the late 20th century. According to the needs of its varied international audience, the animation has been classified into various genres. Anime, as an art form, is diverse in nature. It has been produced with different techniques since its inception. In digital production, the setting of the characters and the use of special camera effects are given more importance than the movement of animated characters. The characters are typically characterized by large emotive and sparkly eyes.

Genres of Anime

The demographic divisions of the society have given birth to different genres of anime. The non-episodic series of *kodomo* are meant for children, *shōjo* aims to focus on girls and *shounen* is made specifically for boys. There are also many genres that cater to the adult audience. Some of the famous genres of anime include *Hentai*, *Gilles Poitras* , *Gundam 0080*. Science fiction genre includes works like *Astro Boy*, *Yokoyama*‘*s Tetsujin 28-go* and *Mecha*. Fantasy genre is also there which include works like *Oh My Goddess!* A beautiful blend of comedy and fantasy can be seen in *Dragon Half*. An example of crime genre is *Castle of Cagliostro*. There are some subgenres in anime *like harem, magical girl, sports, literary adaptations, martial arts, war and medievalism.*

Chapter 2 - Attributes of Anime Characters How they can help in drawing

The animated attributes of Anime characters typically represent human body proportions. It is crucial for an art student seeking to perfectly draw these characters to learn about these attributes. The base unit of body proportion is head. Though the height of the head may vary, but almost all anime characters have a height of 7-8 feet. Some anime artists may disregard the proportions and make slight modifications to the characters. The super deformed characters have are shorter than the normal characters. They can be only 2-4 heads tall. An extreme example of disproportionate character *is Crayon Shin chan.* He resembles the cartoons from western countries and is hugely popular internationally.

A common convention in characterizing anime characters is the exaggerated size of their glittery **eyes.** The reason behind this attribute is that anime artists aim to depict most of the human emotions through eyes. The cornea of the eye is given special depth. Different shades of colors are used to depict the eyes. Generally, the tone color, its lighter shade and its darker shade is used for coloring the eyes. However, you can modify the attributes according to your creativity since there are no rigid rules for creating anime characters.

Hairstyles of these characters are uniquely styled, unnaturally bouncy and colorful. The hair movement is often exaggerated and “action of the hair” is used to add visual effects to the characters to highlight emotions and action.

Though the anime characters are supposedly from Japan, their nationality or race is often not defined. This is deliberately done so that the characters can appeal to the international audience.

Emotions in Anime Characters

Emotions in anime figures are depicted through some typical facial expressions. They are typically comedic and are mostly exaggerated. For example, a nose bleed in a male character is shown when he is aroused, sweat drops are used to signify nervousness, absolutely visible blushing is shown to depict embarrassment and eyes are shown to be glowing to depict an intense glare.

Chapter 3 - Arguments about the Origin and Nomenclature of Anime

There are several arguments about the nomenclature and origin of anime. Many fans of anime agree that it is a form of animation inspired from Japan. That is obviously true. But, there are several counter-arguments about its nomenclature. Many people say that why should we not call it simply “Japanese Animation”? However, the fact is “anime” is slang in Japan for “*animēshon*”, which obviously means animation.

As much as Japanese animation is concerned, The Flintstones, or The Beauty and the Beast can be equally called anime in technical terms just like *Chibi Maruko-san*, *Jin Roh* or *Tenchi Muyo*. The only difference in the lineage of animation is that the Japanese call it anime, and the English already call it animation.

Now, there is a contrasting fact. In Japan, when you say that you love anime, even they will assume that you love the Japanese anime, not everything animated on earth. Even the Japanese consider anime as the Japan-styled animation. So that question arises, what should be the meaning of anime in English?

Why anime is not called “Japanese animation” in English?

Many people argue that why should we not call anime simply as Japanese animation? This definition does not fit all kinds of Japanese animation. It becomes unfair to the creators of anime who do not belong to Japan.

When anime came to the notice of the world in its beginning days, the anime characters had a distinctive look in them. No other characters in the world resembled them. However, modern inventions and the ease of cross-country communications have made things more complicated.

Animation that is created in Japan or outside may or may not confirm to the standards of animation styled by Tezuka Osamu. He is called as the “Father of *manga”*. He was the creator of the following comic series- Black Jack, Astro Boy, and Kimba the White Lion. He is also considered as equivalent in Japan with the American cartoonist and producer, Walt Disney. The most well known video game in America created by a Japanese designer is “*Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within”*. But, there are many more Japanese artists in America, whose works are not very well known.

There are other instances in many countries who claim to produce the supposedly true Japanese anime characters. But, the fact is that you do not have to be Japanese to create anime.

Anime is just Anime

The above definition may sound vague and circular but the most appropriate definition is actually this only. Anime is the style of animation inspired by Tezuka Osamu, created in visual styles, fanciful backdrops, emotional characterizations with a storytelling mood. It is not actually based on the place of origin.

A perfect analogy would be that Opera originated in Italy. But you do not have be an Italian to perform Opera. Thus, you cannot draw a line for anime to be only Japanese.

For example, *Robotech II: The Sentinels* was written and financed in the US but the characters were created in anime style in Japan.

Now, there is a flip side to anime being called Japanese. In Japan, many cartoon series are conceived, written and directed by the Japanese; but the Koreans do the actual task, because the Japanese find cheaper labor in Korea.

The end note for the argument

The conclusion for the argument is that just because a Japanese artist did not draw an anime character, it cannot be classified as a non-anime character. The origin of the creator does not matter. But, the stylization of the anime character does. It is the specific stylization and characterization that makes anime the way it is.

Chapter 4 - What is special in anime?

Most anime fans find the characters just “different” from others. However, as an artist, you must know how “different” anime is.

Artwork: The style of artwork in anime is outlandish and flamboyant in some characters and direct and simple in others. Even a beginner’s work in anime style appears new and fresh to the onlookers.

Storytelling: Anime series are known for their storytelling capabilities. The series sometimes run for dozens of episodes and sometimes for even hundreds of them. However, whichever story goes on in the series, the viewer needs to be emotionally attached to anime to enjoy it.

Variety of material: The variety of concepts in anime shows give the viewers from all kinds of backgrounds something to watch. Nobody gets bored while watching anime. The romantic comedy show- *Fruits Basket*, the hard science fiction show- *Planetes*, crime scene investigation style fighting show- *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex*, classic literature show- *Gankutsuou: The Count of Monte Cristo*, female empowerment show- *Nana* are some examples.

Cultural nuances: The history, worldview and language of Japan are nicely woven into anime characters and backdrops on different levels. For example, shows like *Sengoku Basara* are based on Japanese history. Variants of anime like *Hell Girl*, *Hekkenden* have taken their ideas from Japanese mythology. There are many shows like *Monster* and *Claymore* that are not at all Japanese in their presentation; still they have a touch of Japanese culture in them.

There are recent cartoon productions from America like Avatar, which were declared openly inspired from anime.

Chapter 5 - Is it Fine for Kids to Watch Anime?

It depends entirely on the kind of show that is being referred to. The subject matter of anime is so broadly spread that we cannot categorize it for one age group. Many anime series are created for kids', like *My Neighbor Totoro, Pokemon* etc. Some shows are made for the age group of teens and grown-ups, like *InuYasha*. Older teens can watch shows such as *Death Note.* There are many shows made for mature audiences like *Monster*. Over and above, series like *Queens Blade* are made only for adults.

In Japan, peoples' attitudes towards violence and sexuality are handled much more maturely than in western countries. For instance, nudity in Japan is a more open topic in society than anywhere else. That is why; some shows of anime that are meant for teenagers may seem racy in western culture.

Anime distributers make a note to rate their videos with MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America) rating- (G, PG-13, PG, NC-17, R). They also mention a "TV Parental Guideline Rating", which indicates the target audience for the video.

Chapter 6 - How should you Start Drawing Anime Characters?

The enormous diversity of anime can overwhelm you for a while. But, do not get confused from where you should start drawing the anime characters. Whichever animated characters you already like apart from anime, make a note of those characters. Now, try to search those genres in anime. For example, if you enjoy cyberpunk, you may like Cowboy Bepop. A swords and sorcery follower may like Berserk.

If you find a genre relevant to you, you may just begin practicing your anime characters. If not, you may go through the following points, which will help you pick a starting point from this beautiful concept.

Are you familiar with the Japanese culture?

Many anime fans develop a natural interest in Japanese culture, holidays, social conventions, historical facts etc. On the other hand, some people are already deeply indulged in Japanese culture and later develop an interest in anime. When English viewers start watching anime, they automatically get aware of the Japanese conventions. As an artist or as an animator, you must have a thorough knowledge about Japan, as a country and as a culture.

The other alternative is to look for such shows, which are not set in the Japanese backdrop or they are self explanatory. It becomes very easy to start with such shows. They give a lot of ideas about the drawing of characters. Some examples of such shows are:

- *Black Lagoon*
- *Claymore*
- *Cowboy Bebop*
- *Death Note*

- *The Dirty Pair*
- *Fullmetal Alchemist*
- *Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood*
- *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex*
- *The Films of Hayao Miyazaki & Studio Ghibli*
- *Pumpkin Scissors*
- *The Slayers*
- *Soul Eater*

What are your existing tastes?

Anime is more like a medium of expression rather than a genre. Any kind of genre can be well explained in anime. That is why, as we have mentioned above, you can look for your own interests you have in other animations and explore them in anime.

Find friends who are anime fans

Many a times, people introduce their friends to anime. If this is the case with you also, you can look up to them for guidance in selecting a genre. But, it is not necessary that their likings become your favorite too. You may adore something which they strongly dislike. And there may be a few genres that you do not like but your friends love. Do not get intimidated by someone else's choices. Take your own decisions and start with your own preferences.

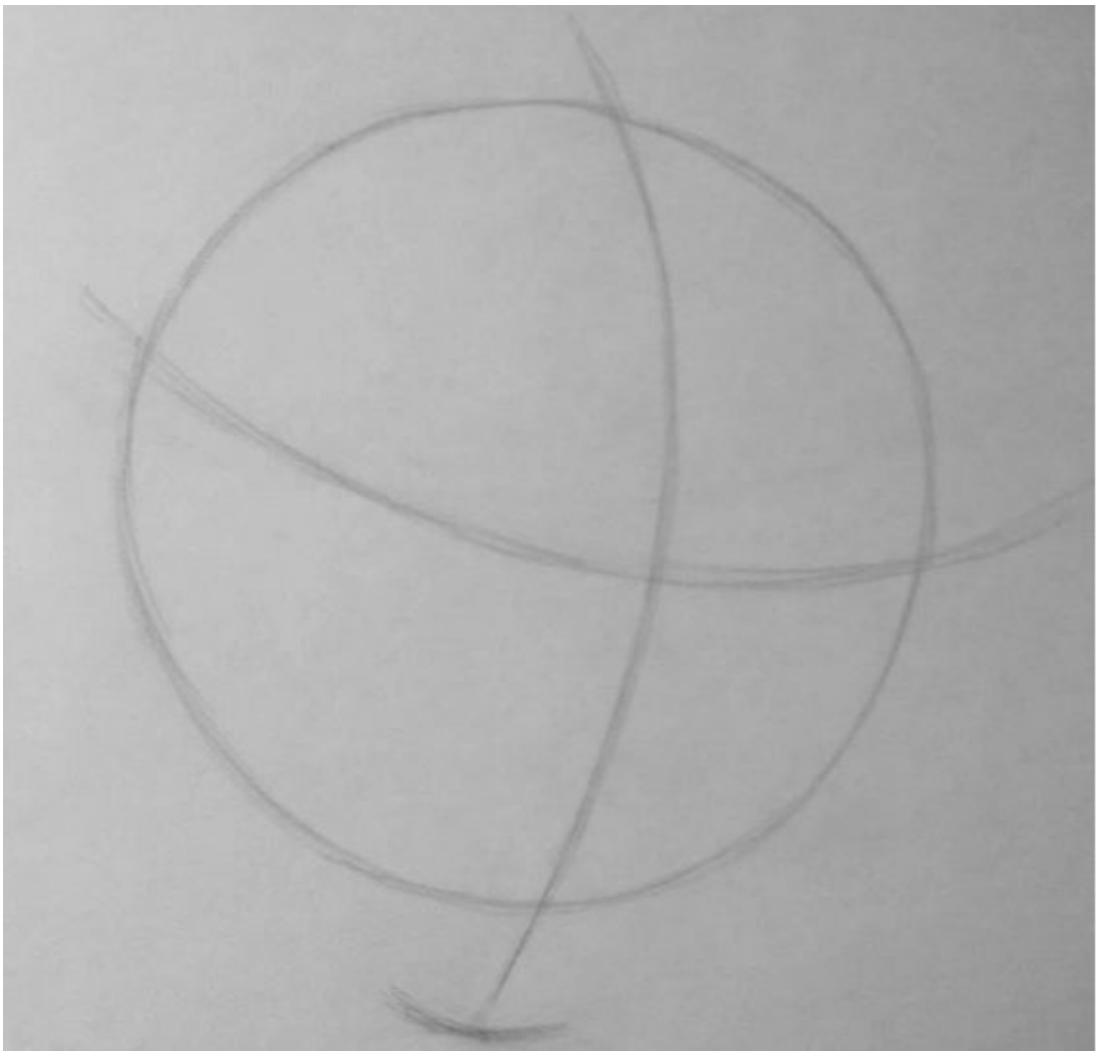
Section 2

Chapter 1 - How to Draw a Head (Male)?

Step 1

Draw a full circle with any kind of support you are comfortable with. You can use a compass or any round object to draw it. The face of the boy will be depicted as if he has just turned his face backwards to look. But the chin is still pointed downwards. We want to draw this male head as looking towards us but the face is pointed downwards. In other words, the facial features will be towards downright direction but the eyes will be pointed at us. Refer to the last picture of the tutorial if you want to.

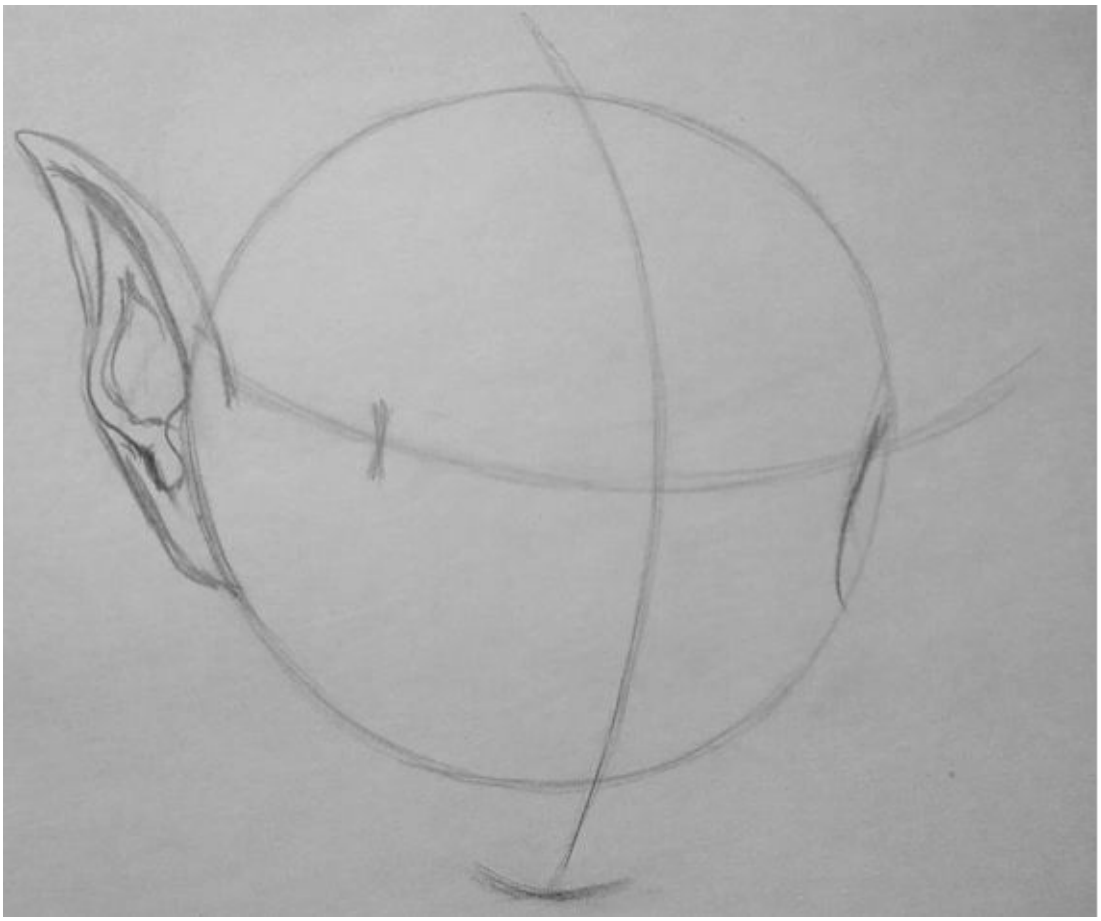
You have to make a curved “+” sign, which means, the two curved lines should intersect each other, but not at the center of each other. Notice that the horizontal line is intersecting the vertical line slightly above the center. We will refer to the vertical line as “longitudinal line” and horizontal line as “latitudinal line” later.



Step 2

Draw the ear of the boy. The top end of the ear should be pointed like it is the ear of a science fiction boy.

Basically, characters in anime are made like humans but are given extra-terrestrial features to enhance the looks of animation.



Step 3

Place two rough circles in place of eyes, which are unequal in proportions. Notice that only the base line and top line of the eyes look circular. The circles in place of eye balls or iris are more like intentionally left incomplete-vertical ovals. In addition, the right eye circle is intentionally kept small to give the depth of perspective.

Step 4

Start giving depth to the eyes and eyebrows. Draw an oval for the black ball or pupil inside the eyes. Draw another semi-circular figure for the shine in the eyes.

In anima characters, eyes are the center of attraction in any figure. We have to give special focus to the sketching of eyes.

Draw a broad V-shaped line for the nose. Draw a directional latitudinal line for the placement of lips.

Step 5

Give shading in the eyes. Leave the shining area without shading. Alternatively, you can erase the area of shine with a very sharp and hard eraser later. The inner circle should be darker than the outer circle of the eyes.

Enhance the outline of the eyebrows. Refine the lines of ear as well.

Give an outline for the lips at the latitudinal line we had drawn for lips.

Step 6

Give the outline for hairstyle. The hairdo is made with a parting in the center of hair. The hairs in anime characters are made enormous to exaggerate the size of heads. Moreover, the hairs are drawn unnaturally bouncy and the action of these characters is depicted through their movement of hairs itself.

Draw the outline for the collar of the boy’s shirt.

Step 7

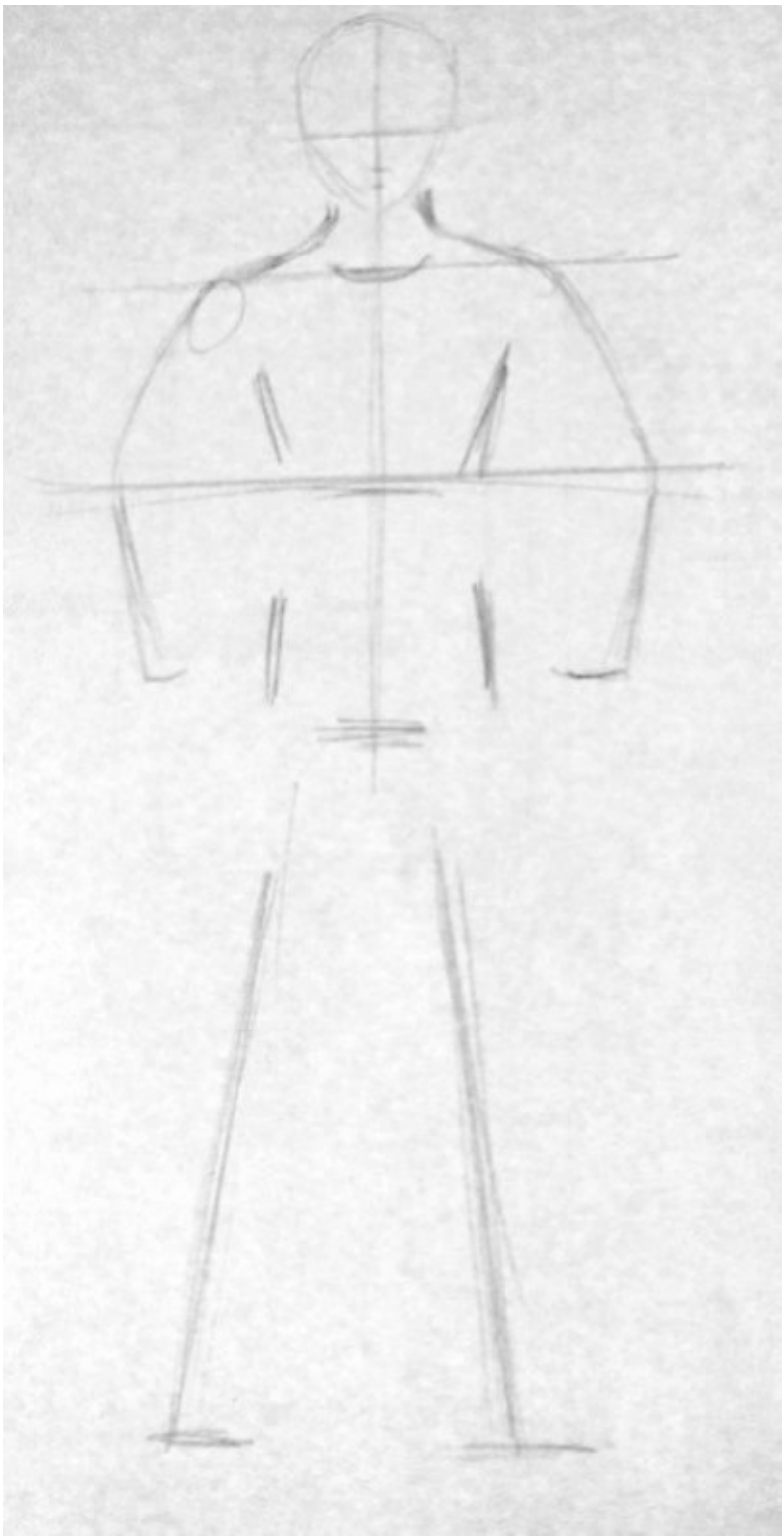
Give depth to the shading of the hairstyle, ears and the clothing of the boy. Refine the outline of the head. Enhance the lips and nose. The hairs have been shown falling on the face. Thus, keep in mind the flair of the hair while drawing them.

The anime boy’s head is complete.

Chapter 2 - How to Draw an Anime Boy?

Step 1

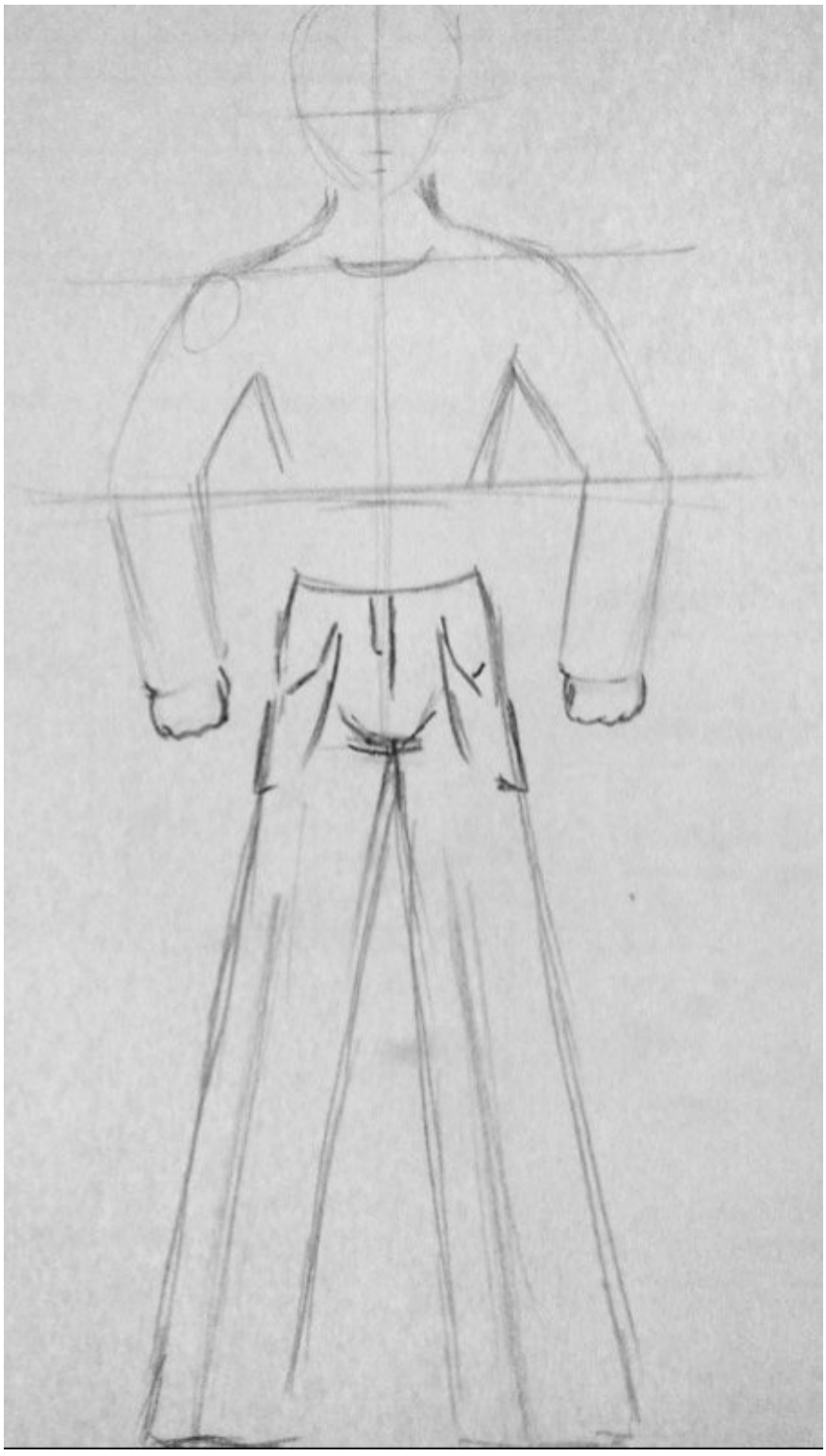
In the previous chapter, you have learnt how to draw the head of an anime boy. In this chapter, we will learn how to draw the whole body of the boy. Draw a vertical line to denote the height of the boy. Draw the basic shape of the face. Draw a horizontal line for the placement of nose, shoulders and elbows. You can see that we have drawn only the outline for shoulders and neckline. We stopped at the point where we have to draw the hands.



Step 2

Draw the outline of his torso and hands.

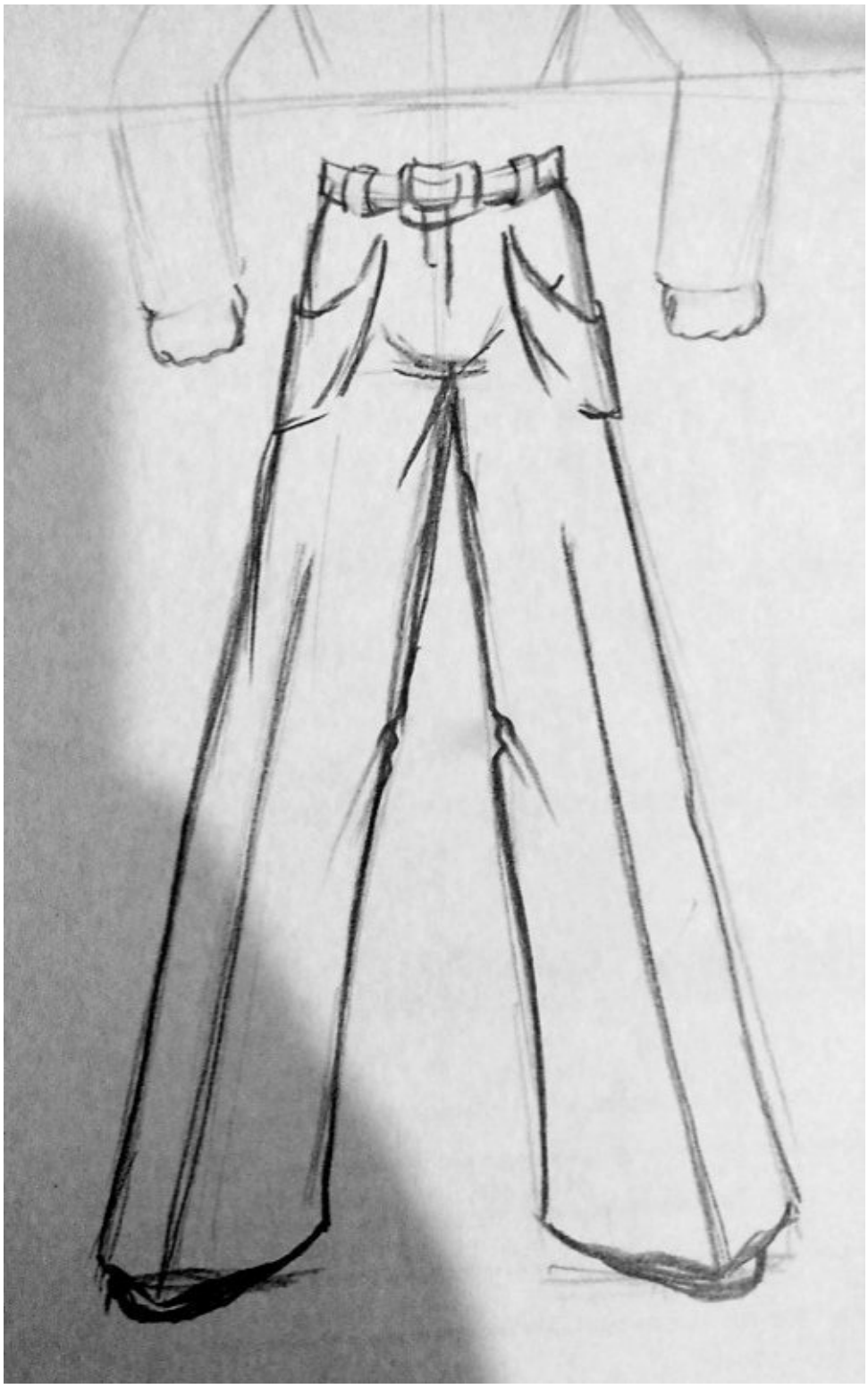
Draw the outline for the pants of the boy. The pants are absolutely straight but slightly broader at the bottoms. Notice the small line at the crotch of the pants and the hint for the zipper to be drawn later. The outline for the pockets is also given in this step.



Step 3

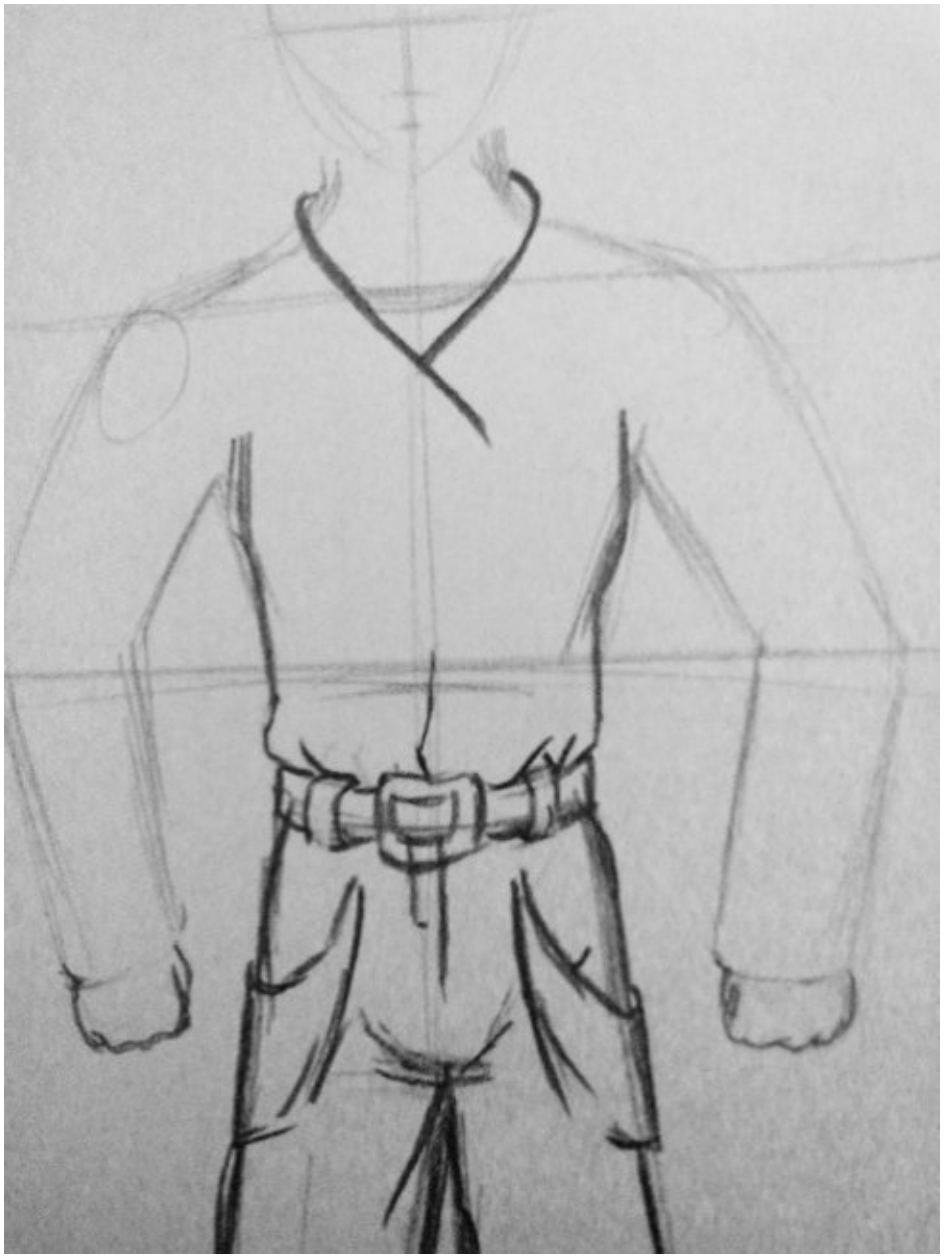
Enhance the look of the pants by drawing some folds and wrinkles near the knees, crotch and pockets. Notice the straight line given slightly above the knees at the center of the pants. They indicate a sharp fold in the clothing. Such details enhance the beauty of clothing.

Draw a belt with a buckle at the waist of the boy.



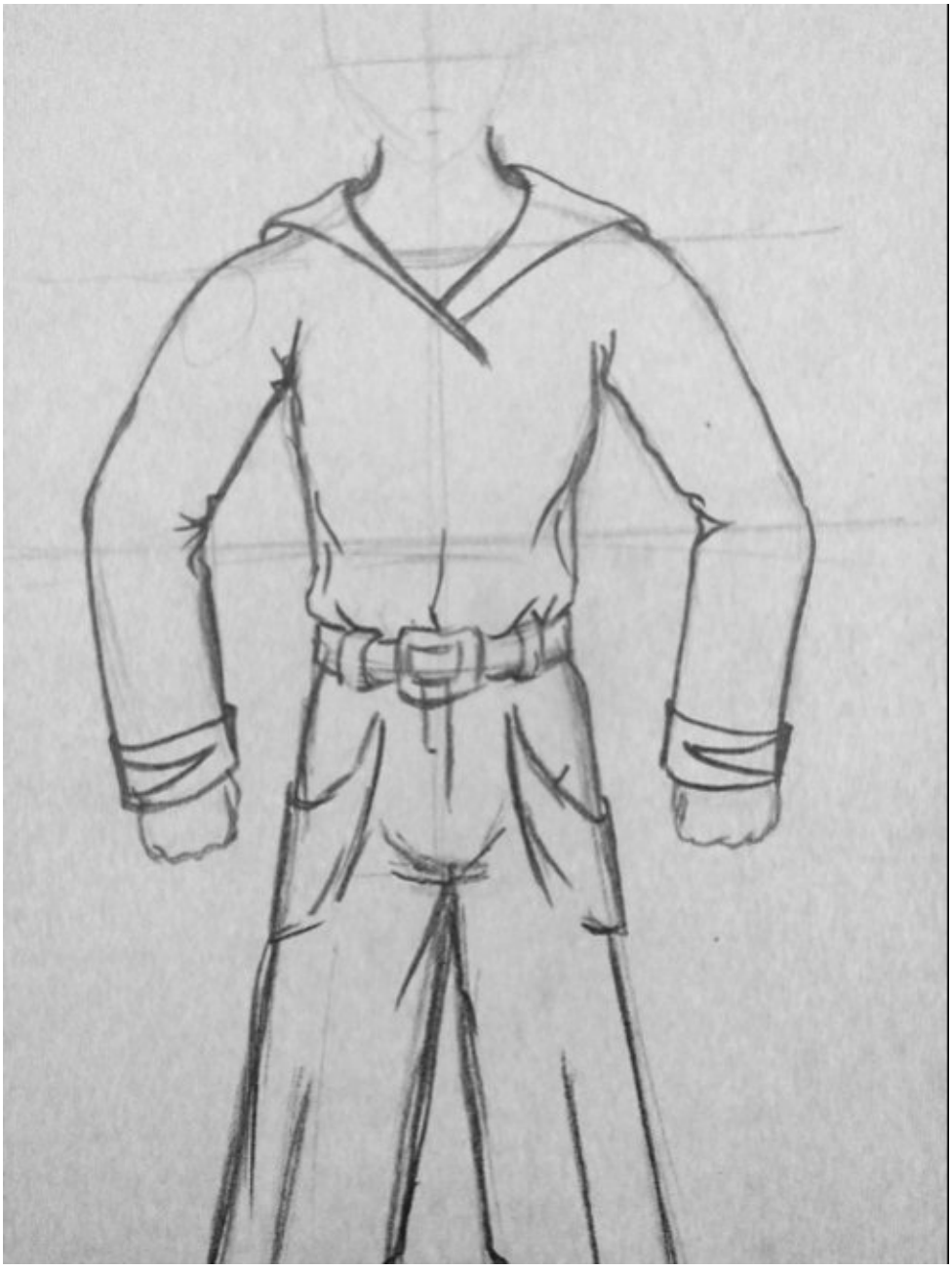
Step 4

Start giving details to the torso and the neckline. Give details of the wrinkles of the shirt.



Step 5

Draw the cape and the rest of the clothing of the upper body. Give details to the shape of neck.



Step 6

Darken the shading of the cape and the shirt.

Draw the eyes of the boy carefully. Note that you do not have to draw the eyes intricately when you are drawing a full body. Only a slight idea of the basic details of the eye is sufficient. But, do not forget to indicate the shine in the eyes.

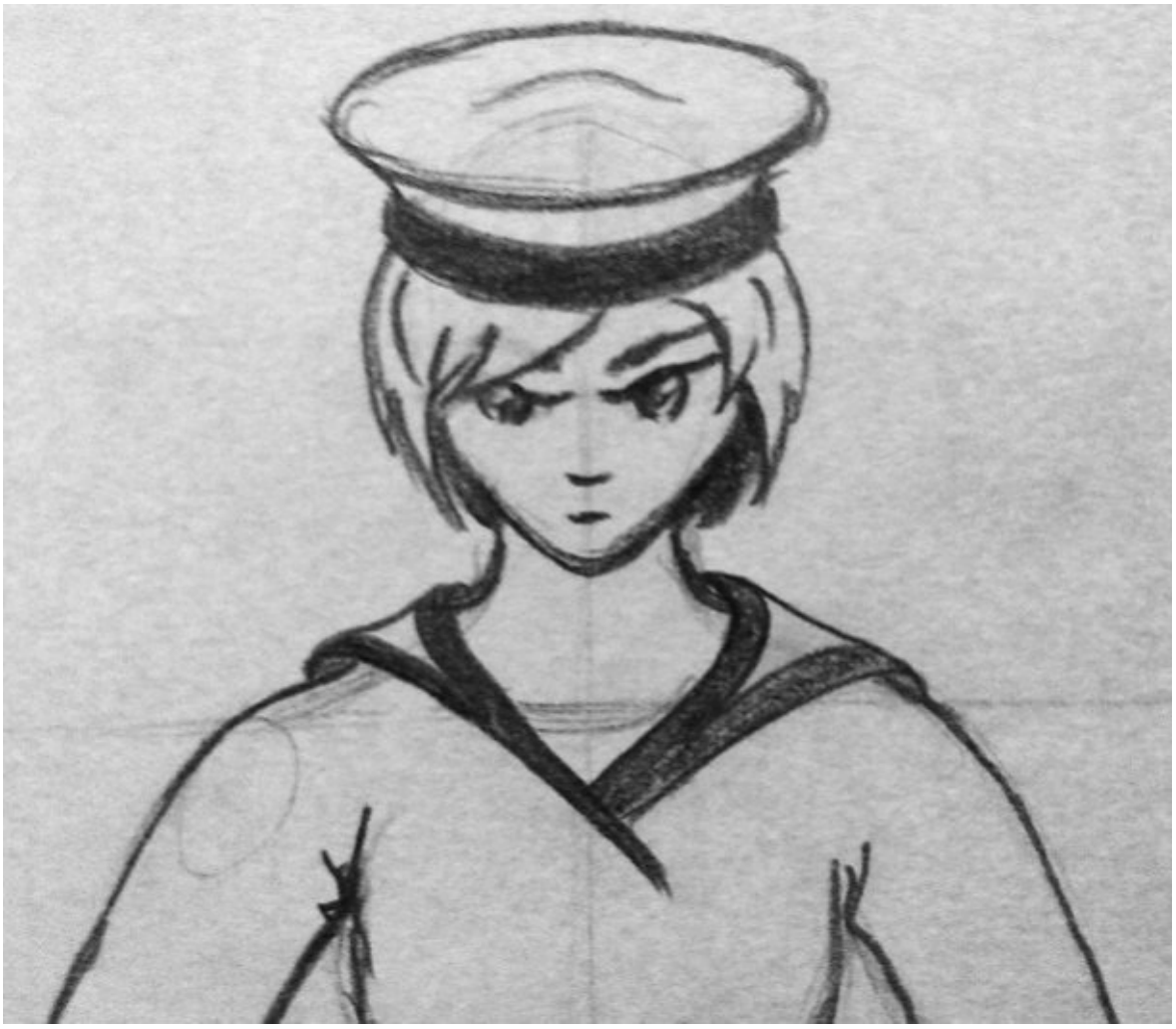
Darken the eyebrows, nose and lips.

Step 7

Draw the cap on the head of the boy. Give a light outline of the hair as well. Also, enhance the chin of the boy.

Step 8

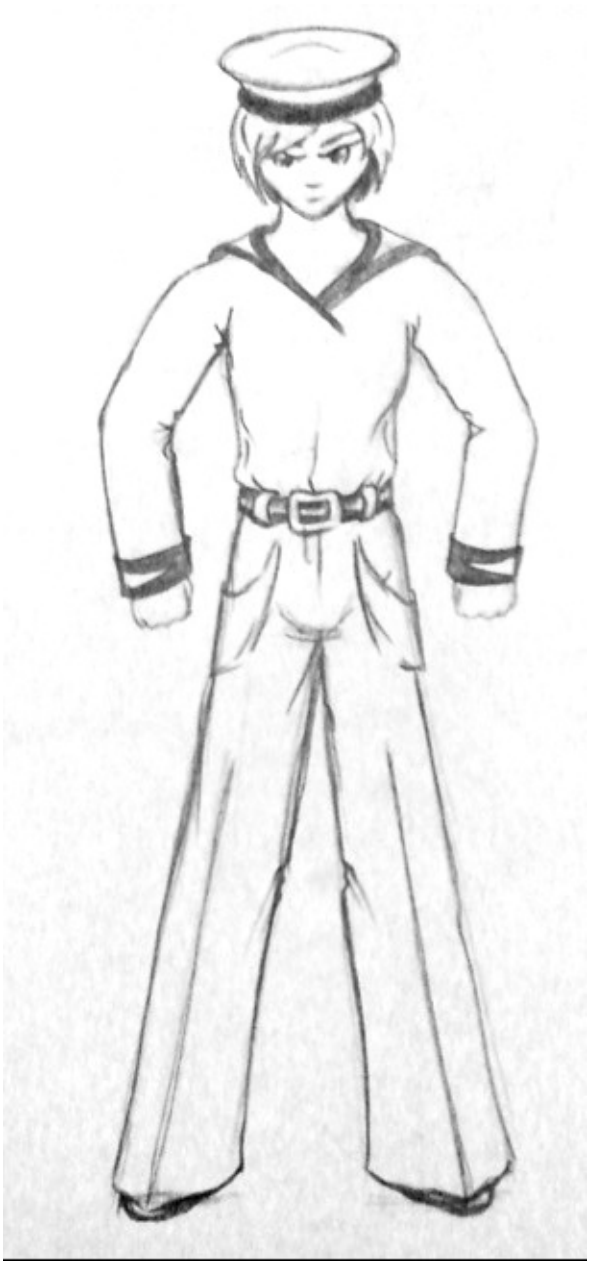
Darken the face outline and the hairstyle of the figure. Notice the slight shadow under the chin. Give detailing to the cap.



Step 9

Complete the figure by adding shoes. Sharpen the body outline and enhance the shading wherever necessary.

The anime boy is ready.

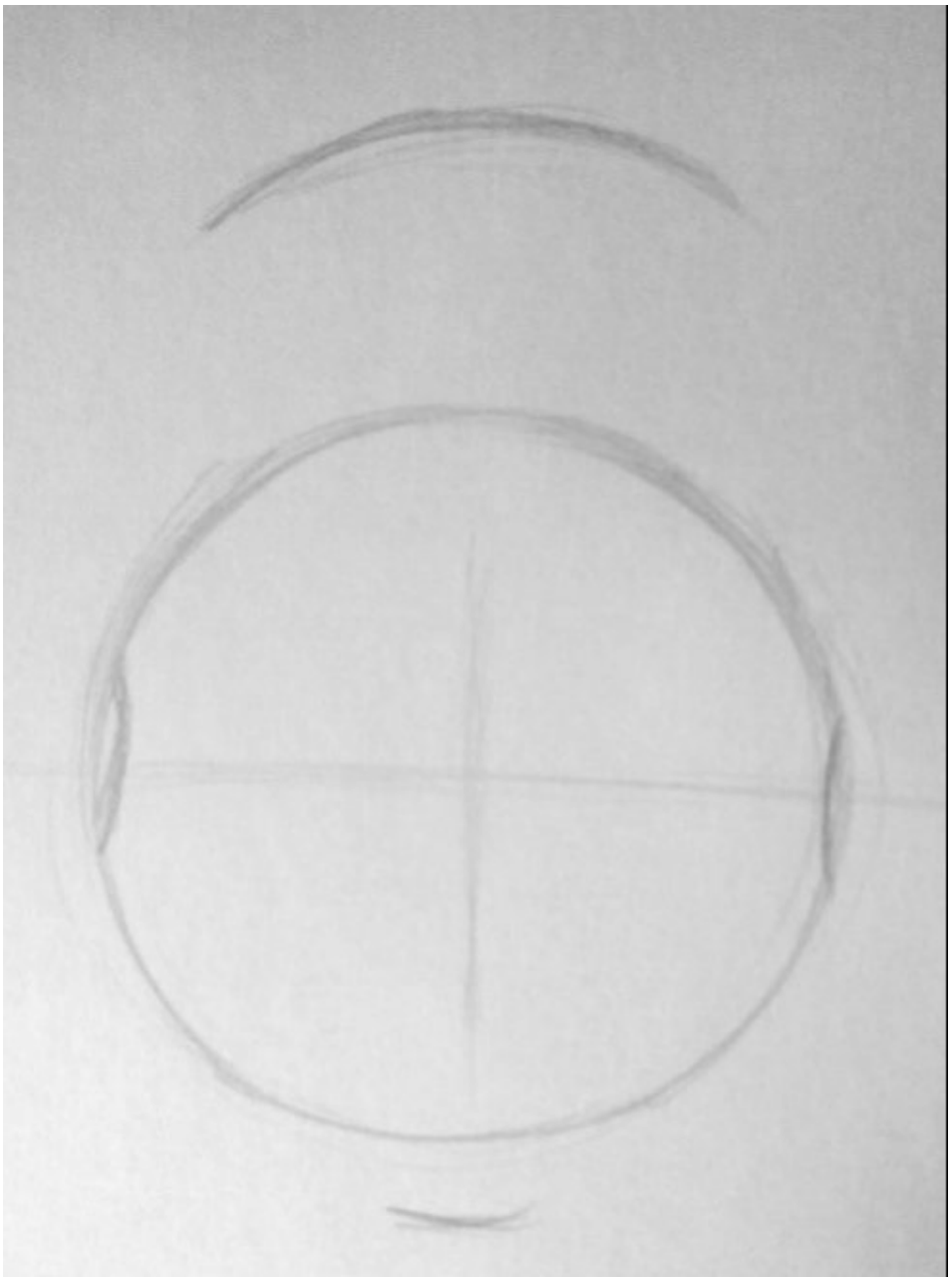


Chapter 3 - How to Draw a Head (Female)?

We have already studied the face of an anime boy in detail, now we will study the same for the face of a girl.

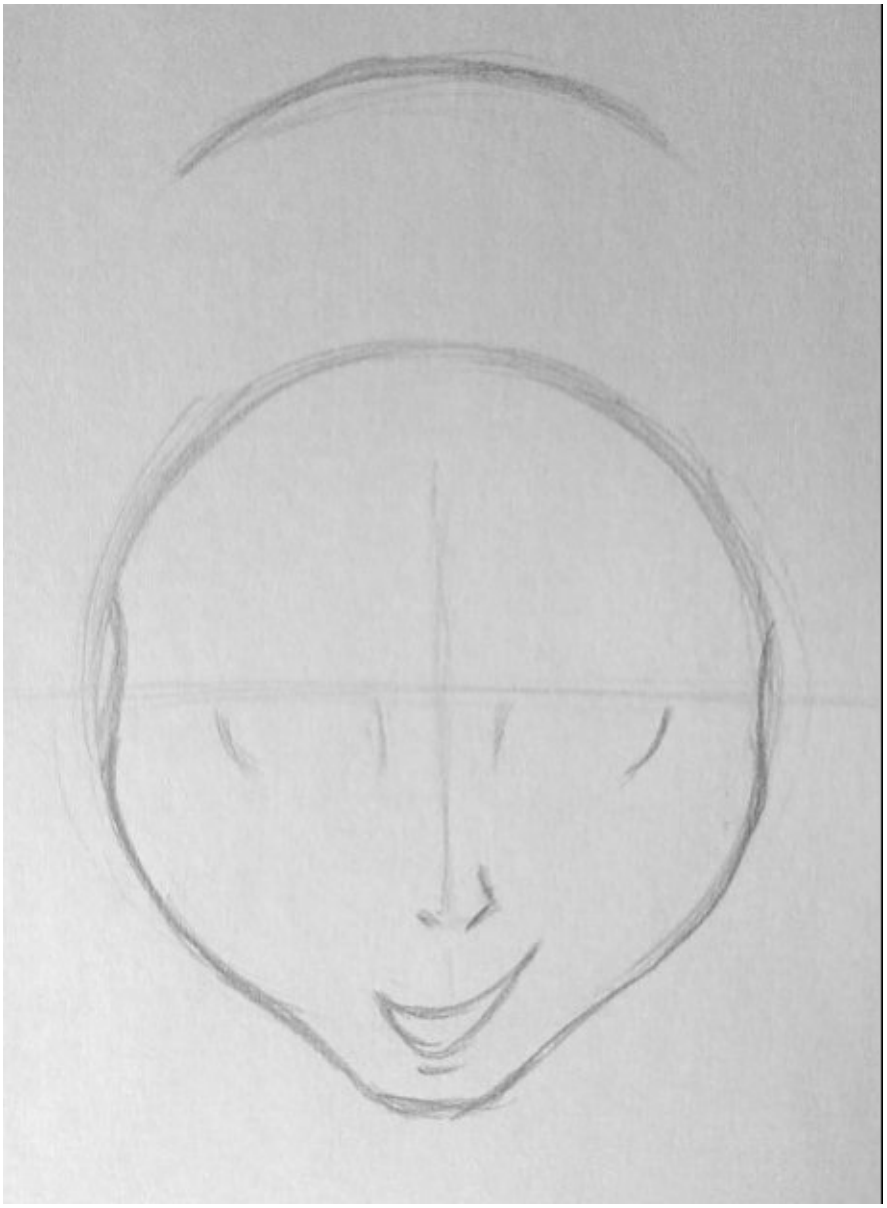
Step 1

Draw a circle for the outline of the face of the girl. Mark an arc for the headgear of the girl. Make a “+” sign in the circle to draw the features later. Notice the little arcs on both sides of the circle, which will be used to draw the ears later.



Step 2

Give an outline of the face of the girl. Draw the outline for the eyes where the latitudinal line had been drawn. Draw hints for the nose and lips.



Step 3

Draw the details of eyes-an outer circle for the eye ball or iris, an inner smaller circle for the black portion of the eye or pupil. The ends of the eyes are made intentionally high and sharp as we have already told you that the eyes of anime characters are the center of attraction of their personality. Hence, they are a little exaggerated.

The hairstyle and the rose are also given slight details in this step.

Step 4

Start shading the hair of the girl. Also, you can start giving details to the headgear and rose. Notice that the clothing is also made in conjunction with the headgear.

Step 5

Darken the shading and outlines of hair and headgear and give them the final shading. The rose is also given the final touch in this step.

Step 6

Give details to the eyes and eyebrows. Sharpen the outlines of nose and lips. The nose and lips are intentionally given fewer details so that the attention of the viewer goes only to the mesmerizing eye of the anime girl.

Give required details to the clothing of the girl. Notice that the shoulders of the girls are drawn smaller to convey the idea that she is probably clinching her hands when she is blushing at someone. Only a few stitches and wrinkles are enough to draw her clothing.

Step 7

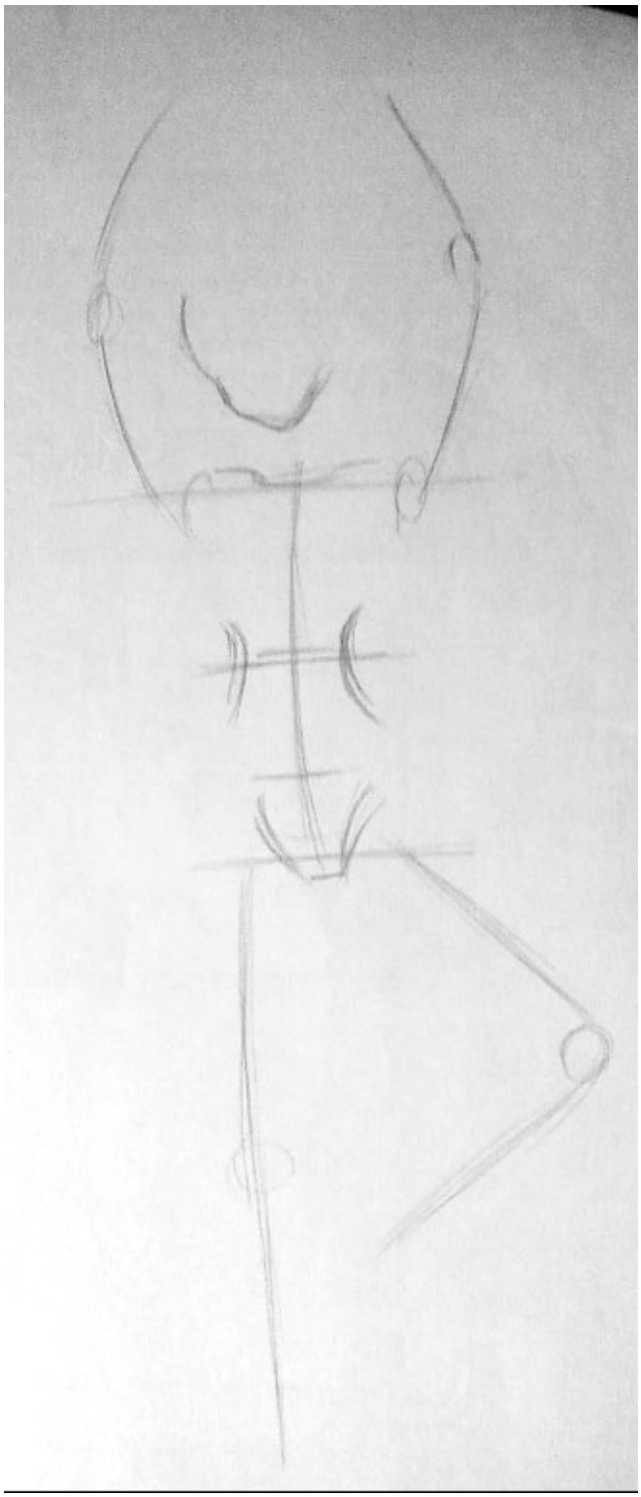
Give final touch up to the face. The anime girl is ready.

Chapter 4 - How to Draw an Anime Girl?

After we have learnt how to draw the face of the girl, it’s time to learn drawing the full body of a dancing girl. Let us start.

Step 1

Draw the basic outline of the body of the girl. Just give hints of her body, face, legs and hands. Since we are drawing a dancing girl, we will portray her hands over her head and one knee folded and held against the other.



Step 2

Refine the details of the girl’s body. The fingers of her hands are drawn delicately as they are of a dancing girl. Her face is pointed slightly downwards. Draw a “+” sign on the face to place the features later.

The perfect way to draw the clothing on a full human body is to draw the hints of inner body parts first. It is done so that the perfect “fall” of the clothes on the body can be drawn. Before drawing the frock of the girl, you should draw the bust line and crotch. Notice the horizontal lines near the neck and the stomach. They are drawn to mark the body proportions properly.

The legs are also draw in this stage. A slight hint for the feet is also given.

Step 3

In this step, you have to draw the feet of the girl. Notice that the feet are not bare. She is wearing flat soled shoes, the strips of which are carefully drawn.

Step 4

Draw the upper part of her clothing. Notice that her clothing is perfectly covering her busts. If you are perfect at drawing the human body parts, only then you can perfectly draw the silhouettes.

Step 6

Now, you can focus on drawing her features of the face. Do not give too much detailing to the eyes. Only a slight impression of the eye ball is sufficient. Draw the minor lines for nose and lips.

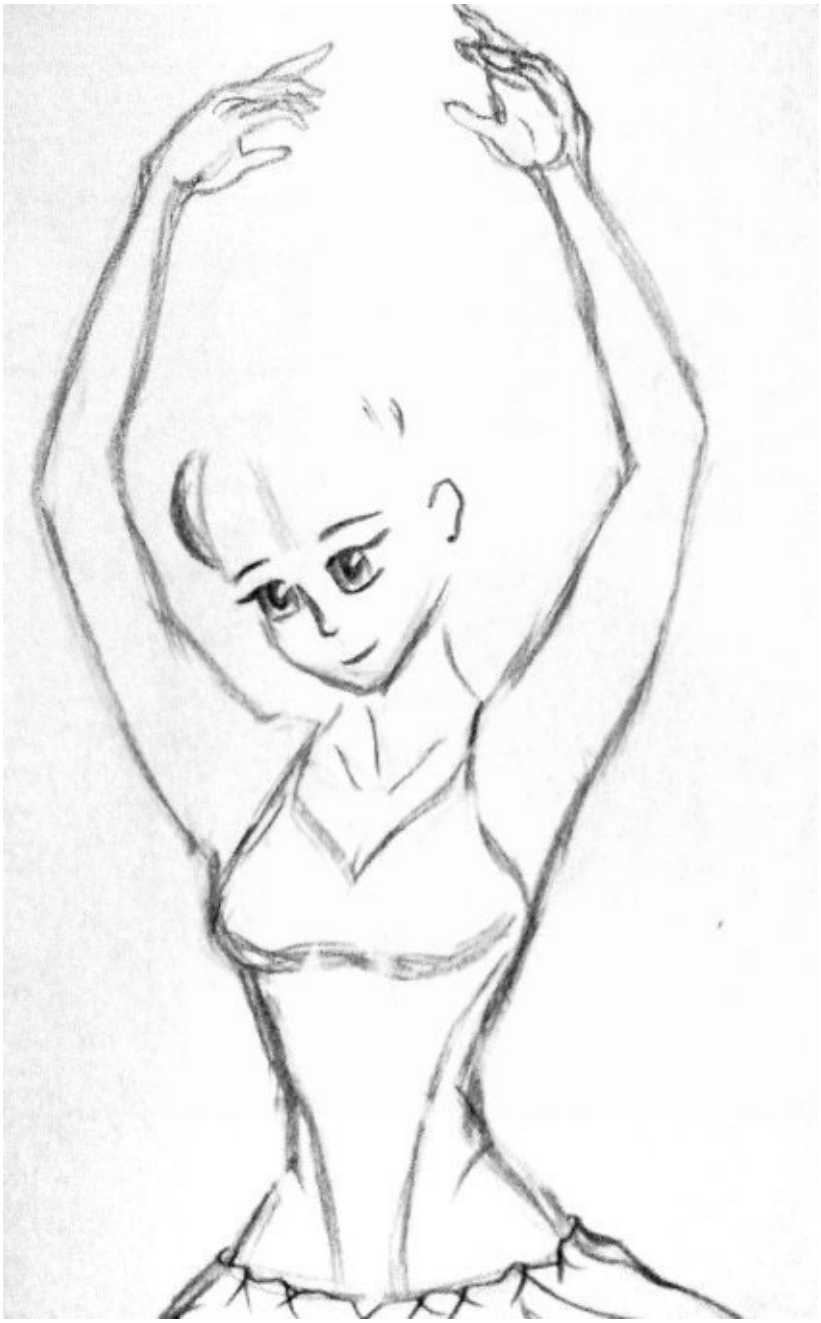
Draw the details of her skirt as well. Notice the wrinkles and folds in the skirt.

Step 7

Give the details of her eyes, nose and lips. Do not forget the shine in her eyes.

If you try to overdo the face features in a full human body, you might end up spoiling the whole face. That is why, only slight details are required to signify the features of the face.

You can also start drawing the hair of the girl, which you can complete later.



Step 8

Give the outline for her bun and the fringes on her face. Start shading the hair after the outline. Notice the depth in the bun. The shading has been done accordingly. The fringes have been given some gaps in between, which make the hairdo more realistic. Only a flat drawing of straight cut hair leaves the impression of artificialness.

Step 9

Darken the shading of her hair. The depth of the bin is darkened more in this step. And the rest of the hairs have been given sharper details.

Step 10

Give finishing touch to the face and body of the girl. Sharpen and darken the shading wherever necessary.

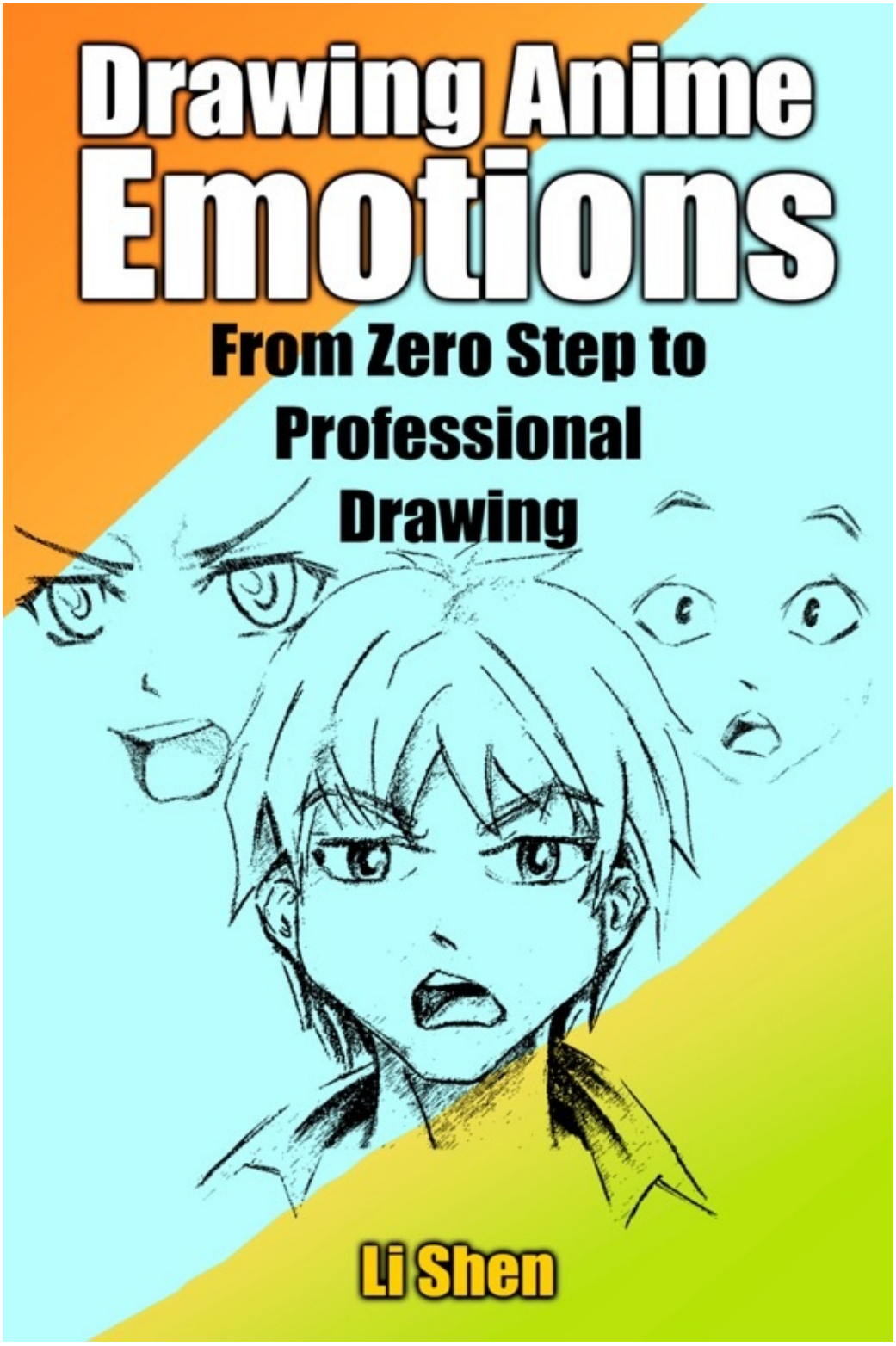
The dancing anime girl is ready.

Conclusion

After reading the introducing chapters and the tutorials in the book, you must be feeling light headed. The stigma attached to the drawing of these apparently difficult anime drawings might not be bothering you that much. It becomes easy to begin drawing in any genre after reading some content on it. That is why; the first thing we did is to introduce you to the concept of anime in detail. Without knowing anything about it, it might have been difficult for you to begin drawing straightaway.

There is a lot to explore in anime. They are not just sketches of Japanese animated characters, but a completely different set of human exploration. You can take your drawings one step further by watching and following some anime characters yourself. Go through the different anime series and choose one character that you find most appealing. Collect its pictures and try your hand in drawing different sketches of that character.

The tutorials in this eBook are also designed in a comprehensive manner so that you do not feel any kind of difficulty in drawing the figures. We hope that you enjoyed the drawing of anime characters. Keep exploring!



Drawing Anime Emotions

From Zero Step to Professional Drawing

By Li Shen

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Introduction

Drawing anime characters becomes really simple when you know how to draw the basic facial features. It seems simple to just pick up a pencil and a piece of paper and just sit down to draw. However, it is better if you practice different features individually. For instance, many a time, artists feel that they are not able to achieve perfection in drawing the eyes of an anime character. This ruins the entire expressions of the face. And, it happens because they do not practice enough to draw facial features.

Anime characters have a wide range of facial expressions. They are relatively easier to understand than those of realistic human expressions. And, most of the facial expressions are a result of the foreplay of eyes and lips. However, there are some of the expressions which are beyond explanation but the understanding comes only with practice and time. You need to draw a lot of anime characters to get hold of these unsaid and untold expressions.

Some of the facial gestures are developed for black and white format of manga characters. The Japanese system of drawing anime developed many characters that were drawn in black and white. Unlike, American cartoons, they could not rely on colors to depict feelings, moods and emotions. Therefore, the Japanese found resort in exaggerating the facial features and gestures. Sometimes, you might find them loud unless you get habitual to draw them. The expressions of the face are certainly different from the regular depiction of cartoons.

In this book, **Drawing Anime: from Zero Step to Professional Drawing,** you will find a detailed description of facial features as well as their explanation. There are some facts about drawing eyes, lips and hair; which every anime artist should know in detail. Every such basic fact is explained in the book. Therefore, even if you have lifted the pencil for the first time to draw anime, you will not feel uncomfortable drawing them. In the latter half of the book, you will find application of facial features in different emotions and anime characters.

Flip through the pages of this book and practice simultaneously for best results.

Good Luck!

Part 1 Facial Expressions-Basics

When the human figures are drawn in any drawing, to achieve perfection in facial expressions is the top priority of any artist. The face is a screen to the inner feelings of a character. Just the facial expressions of a character tell the difference between an observant artist, a skilled artist and an inexpressive artist. Another major reason to achieve mastery in facial expressions is that if you achieve the expressions right, you are kind of *allowed* to make mistakes in body proportions. The face takes up most of the attention of a viewer.

In this book, initially you will find the facial features that change to express feelings and emotions. Later, those expressions will be used in a few characters. In this chapter, you will also find explanation to some expressions which are not illustrated. You can try to draw them on your own and develop your caliber.

What you should keep in mind?

There are certain things that you should keep in mind while drawing faces. The features of the face change in a certain pattern according to the feelings. Just like you cannot feel happy and sad at the same time, similarly, you cannot draw happy eyes and sad lips together. If you do anything like that, the result will be a funny or silly looking character. You can do one thing while you draw- look at yourself in the mirror and try to make your own face with the expression you are trying to achieve. Notice how your eyes and lips change. The hairs also play an important role in illustrating a character. Let us see how

facial expressions depict various feelings.

Chapter 1 Eyes

You can achieve a lot of things with eyes alone. There are several elements of eyes like, eyelids, pupil size, iris position; which can be altered to create different expressions in eyes. The whole expression of eyes is dominated by these elements.

Sleepy eyes: the eyes are, to some extent, covered with eyelids. The iris and pupil are also half covered by eyelids.

Relaxed eyes: the eyelids are marked with a regular opening of eyes and the pupil almost touches the upper edge of the eyes.

Alert eyes: the eyelids can be omitted from alert eyes and the eyes have a regular opening.

Wide eyes: the eyes are widely opened and the pupil is dilated but does not touch any of the edges.

Eyebrows

Drawing eyebrows have to be handled with delicacy. Only a slight change in the eyebrows can bring significant change to the expressions of the face. There are two parts of the eyebrows- the curve, which is the apex of the eyebrows; and the head, which is the elongated part of the eyebrows. Both these parts can be at rest, lowered or raised.

Different degrees of contraction are capable of showing several grades of intensity. This

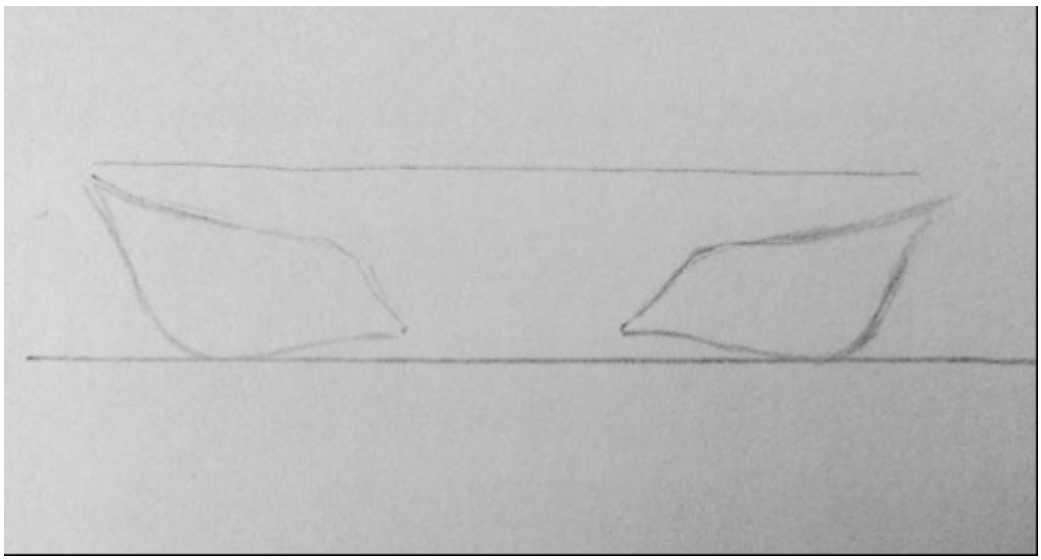
affects the general shape and forms furrows on the forehead and above the nose. Thus, there are subtle variations in the shape of eyebrows which can be achieved with slight changes. This comes by using observation skills and instincts.

Let us see a few expressions of eyes in some illustrations:

1. ***Cruel eyes***

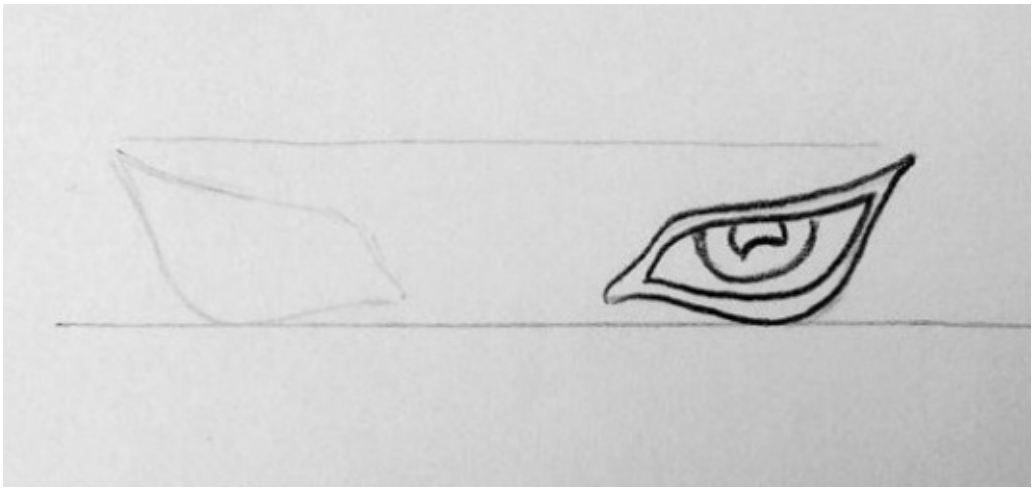
Step 1

Draw a sharp outline for eyes in between a set of parallel lines.



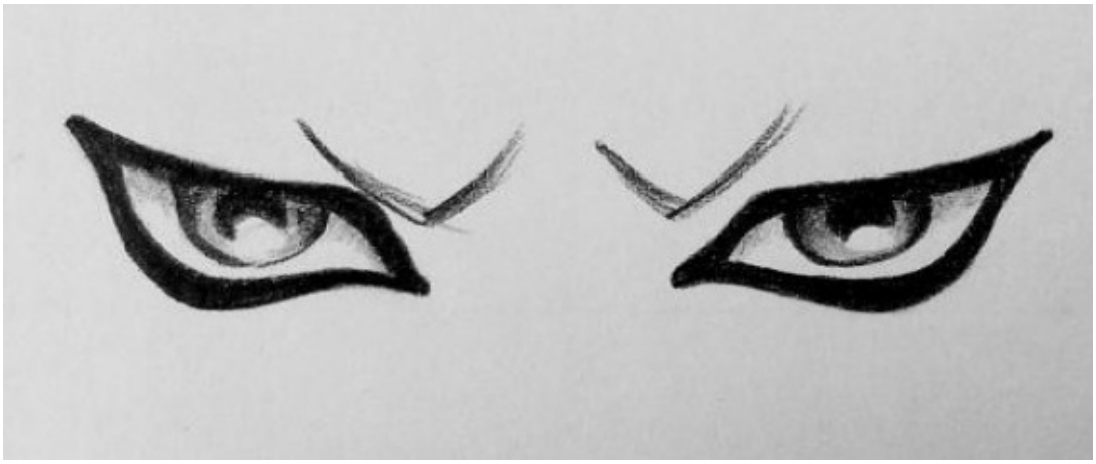
Step 2

The outline has to be drawn with a thick bold line. Draw an inner boundary for making it thick. Draw the pupil and iris. The pupil is cut into a crescent.



Step 3

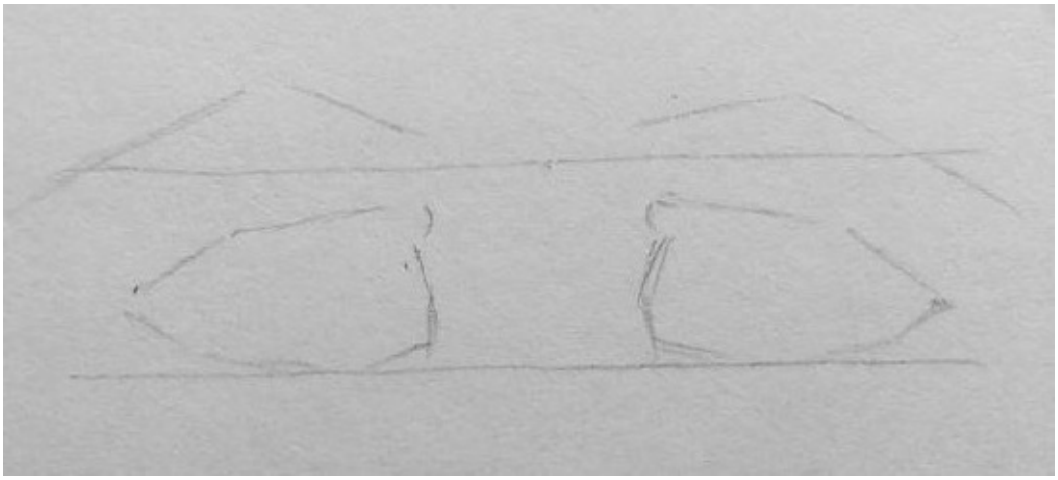
Thicken the outline of both the eyes and give shading in the pupil and iris. Notice the shine below the pupil; it is given to complete the circle shape of pupils. Draw the eyebrows in V-shapes almost co-joining each other in the middle of the forehead.



2. ***Gloomy eyes***

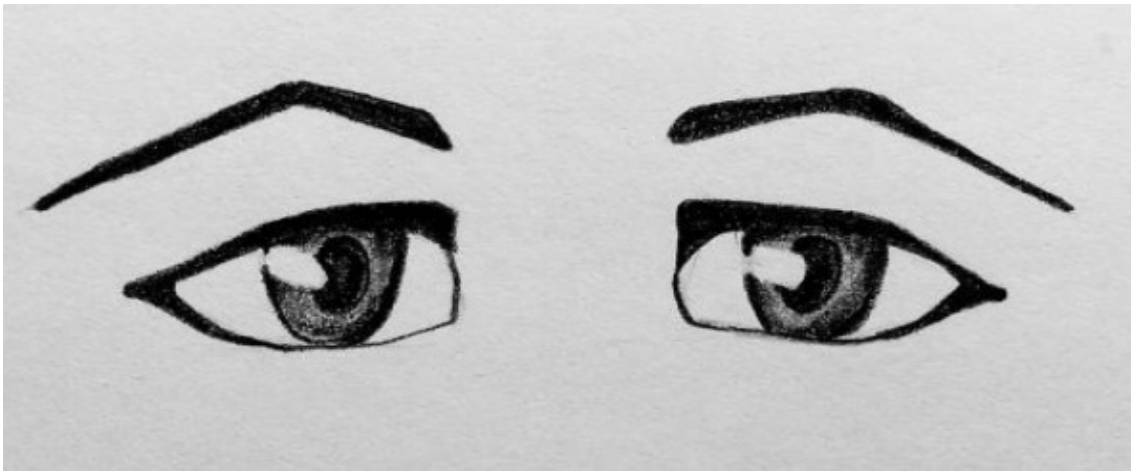
Step 1

In between a set of parallel lines, draw the outline for eyes. Draw the eyebrows partially above the parallel line and partially under it.



Step 2

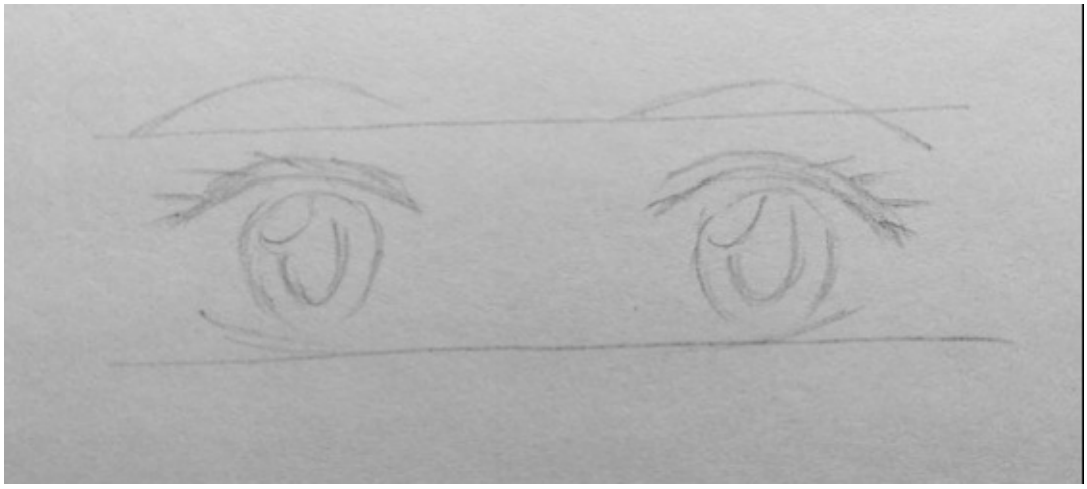
Erase the parallel lines and thicken the eyebrows as well as the outline of eyes. Draw pupil and iris; the shine of eyes is cutting across the edge of pupils. Shade the eyes as given in the illustration.



3. ***Surprised eyes***

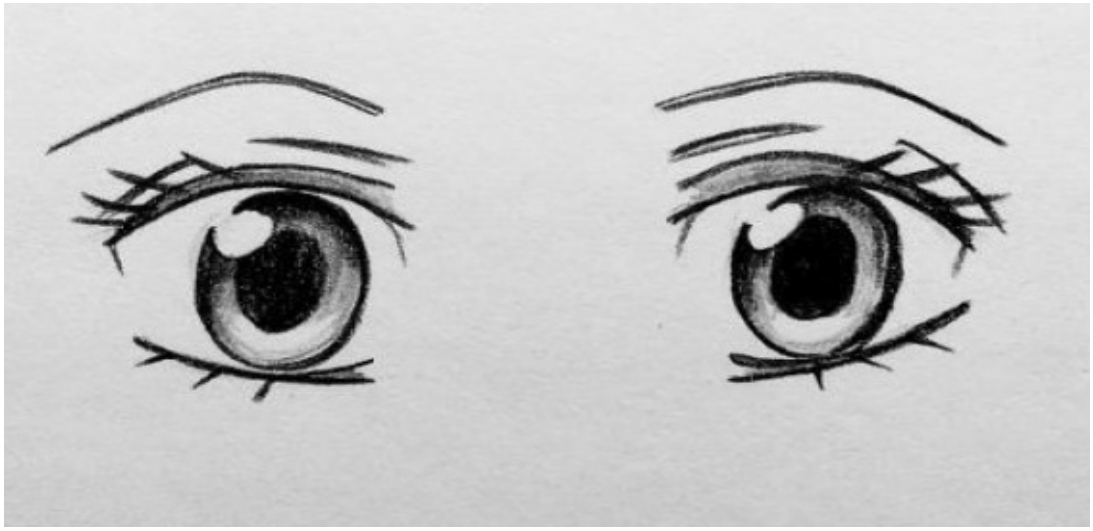
Step 1

Draw the outline of eyes, eyelids and eyebrows with the help of parallel lines as given in the illustration.



Step 2

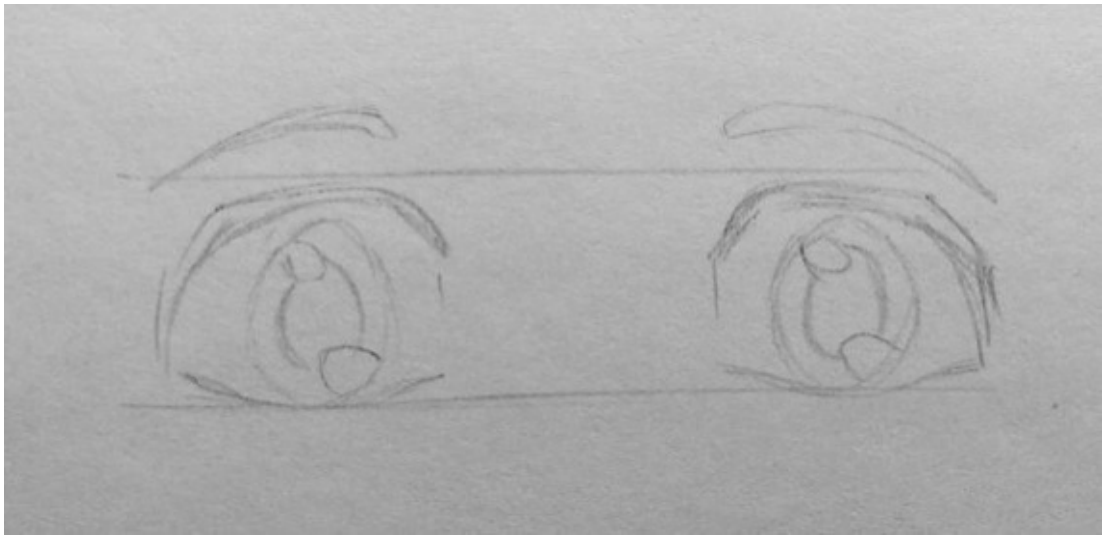
Draw thin eyebrows, eyelids and thicken the outline of eyes as shown in the illustration. The lower edge of the eye is moving slightly more towards the center than normal. The entire pupils are visible since the eyes are depicted as surprised. Draw eyelashes in the end.



4. ***Teary Eyes***

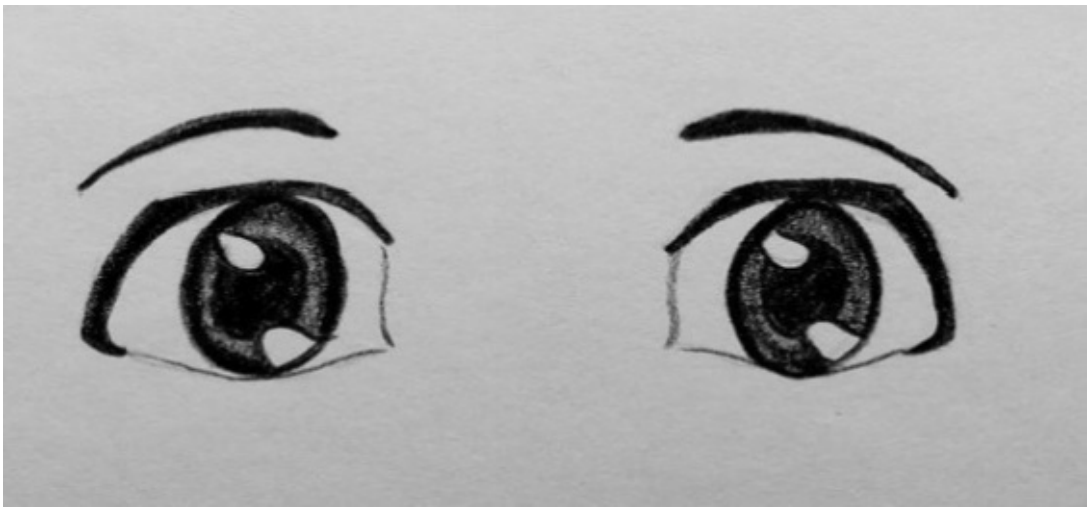
Step 1

Draw the outline for eyes, eyelashes and eyebrows as shown in the illustration. The eyebrows are lying above the parallel lines. There are two circles for depicting reflection in the eyes since we are showing wet eyes.



Step 2

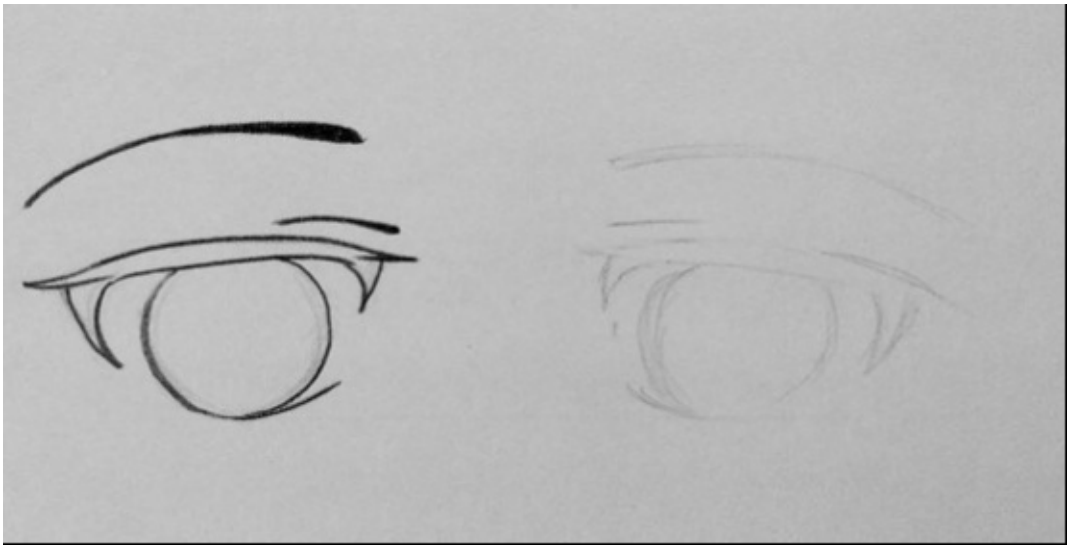
Thicken the eyebrows and the upper edge of the eyes. Draw other elements of the eyes- pupil and iris. Reflect two points of reflection touching the pupil in each eye.



5. ***Thoughtful Eyes***

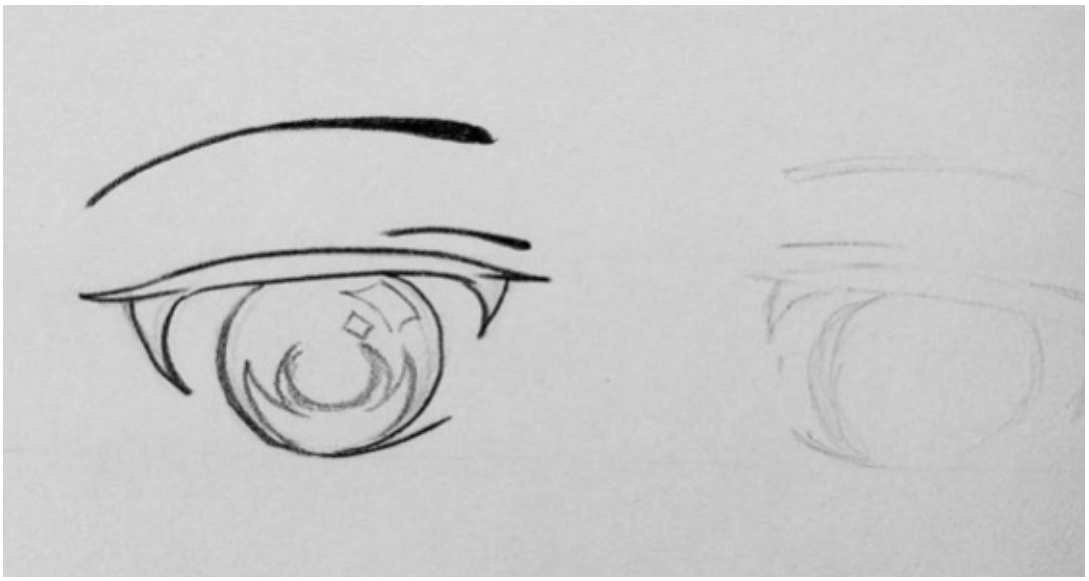
Step 1

Draw the outline of eyes in a set of parallel lines. Give it a final touch since we have more to draw for thoughtful eyes.



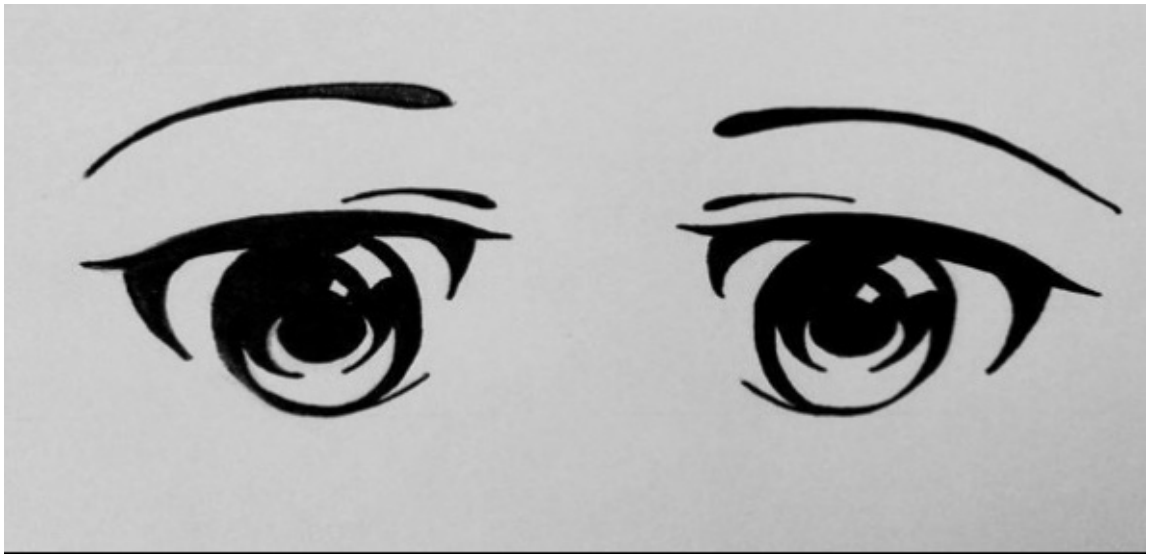
Step 2

Draw the elements of eyes in the sclera as shown in the illustration.



Step 3

Finalize the eyes the way you draw them in anime characters. The eyebrows are thin but the upper edges of the eyes are thick. The pupil is shown merged with sclera and the reflections are shown in two small square parts.



Chapter 2 Hair

Drawing hair can be a painstaking task for some amateur artists. Many of us lose patience and end up drawing a mess of lines instead of a smooth flow of hairs. Let us see what the important elements of hair are:

Volume

Volume helps to make a rough outline of skull prior to drawing hair. You have to keep in mind the shape of human head, which is 3-dimentional of course, in mind. There is a certain height of hair above the head and on sides as well.

Flow

The flow of the hair depends on the structure underneath. When the hairs are long, they flow down, embrace the head and drape around the shoulders. The strokes while drawing hairs should be simple and loose.

Value- mid tones, shadows and highlights

Before you sit down to draw hair of a character, take some time to observe the source of light, mid tones, shadows, and highlights. The source of light affects the tonal value of hair. You can draw the darker areas first to cover up the most area before you indulge in small details.

Texture

You do not have to spend all your time drawing hair. You can depict the texture of hair by just working using steady strokes with confidence and keeping your flow consistent. Take a chunk of hairs to be drawn at a time and finish it first.

You can use darker pencils (6B or 8B) for dark areas and even eraser for highlights.

Let us see a few illustrations of outlines of hairs:

1. Anime style

Step 1

Draw the outline for head from the side profile.

Step 2

Start drawing the hair step by step.

Step 3

Complete the outline of anime hairstyle.

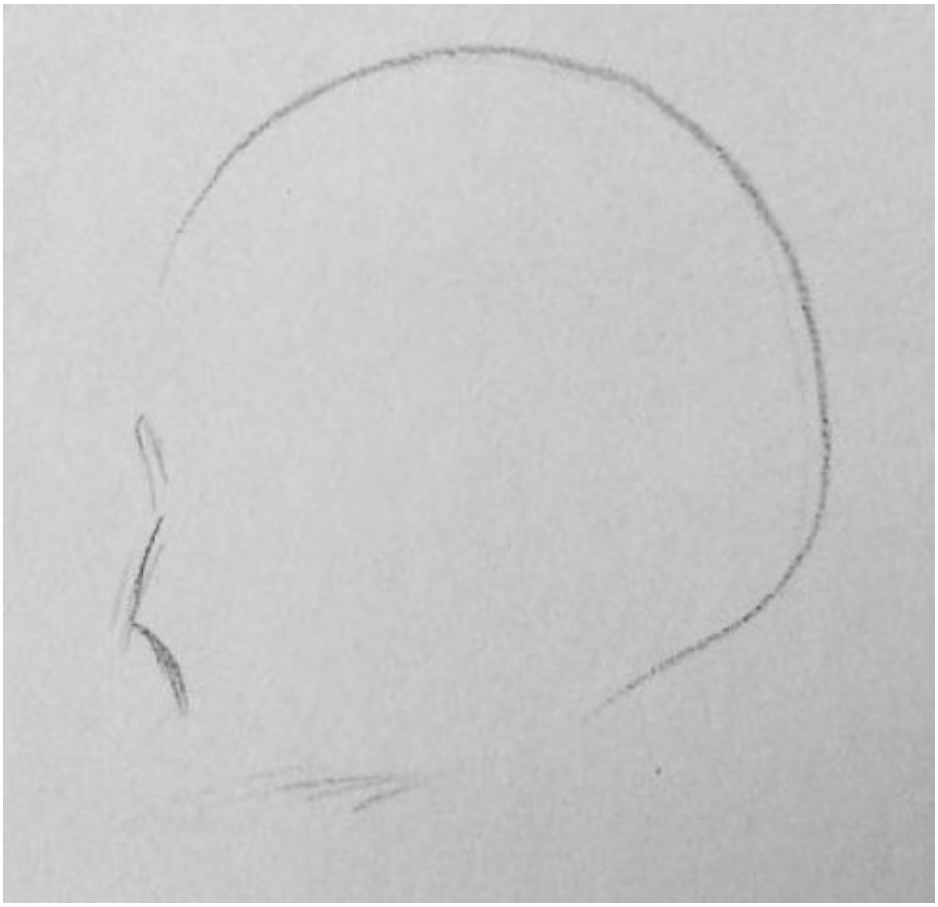
Step 4

Draw some chunks of hair where you can draw the strands in different directions. Complete drawing the flow of hairs yourself using the guidelines of chunks.

2. ***Bob cut***

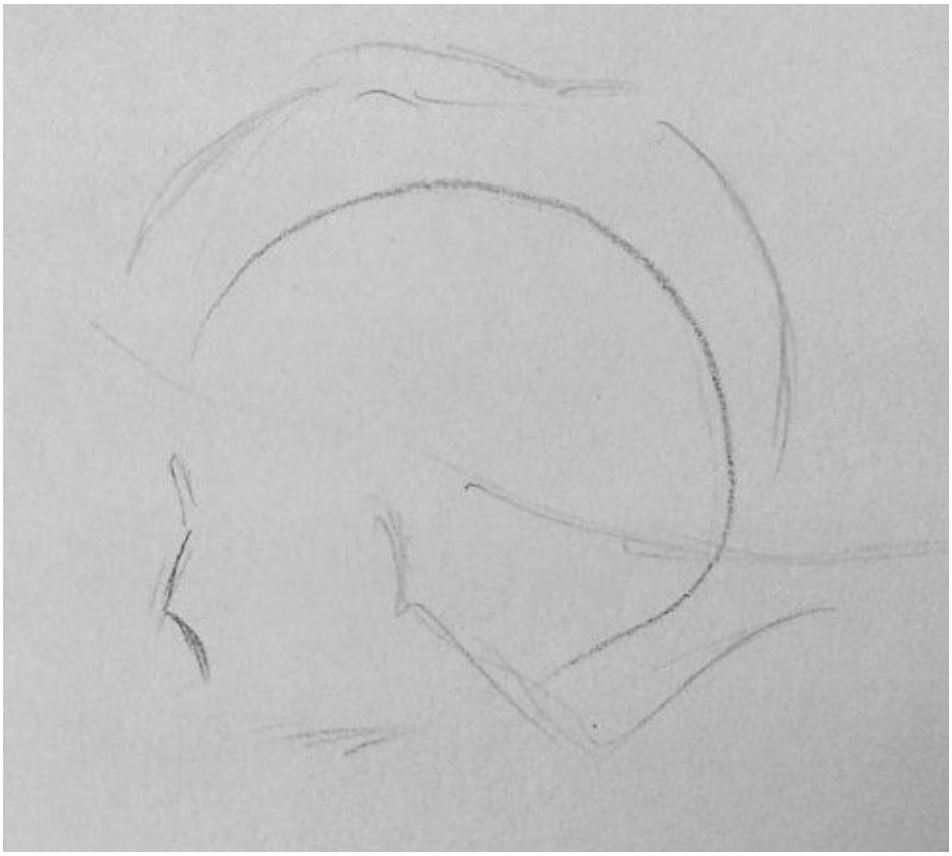
Step 1

Draw the side profile of head. Here, we are not focusing on the facial expressions. Our focus is hair in this part. Therefore, only a rough outline of head is sufficient.



Step 2

Draw the volume of hair, approximately 2 centimeters from the scalp. Draw a line dividing the hair into a section where you can draw the steps of haircut.



Step 3

Draw the steps of haircutting, the ends going in different directions. You can draw such hair for both girls as well as boys.

3. ***Long hairs***

Step 1

Draw the outline of side profile of head.

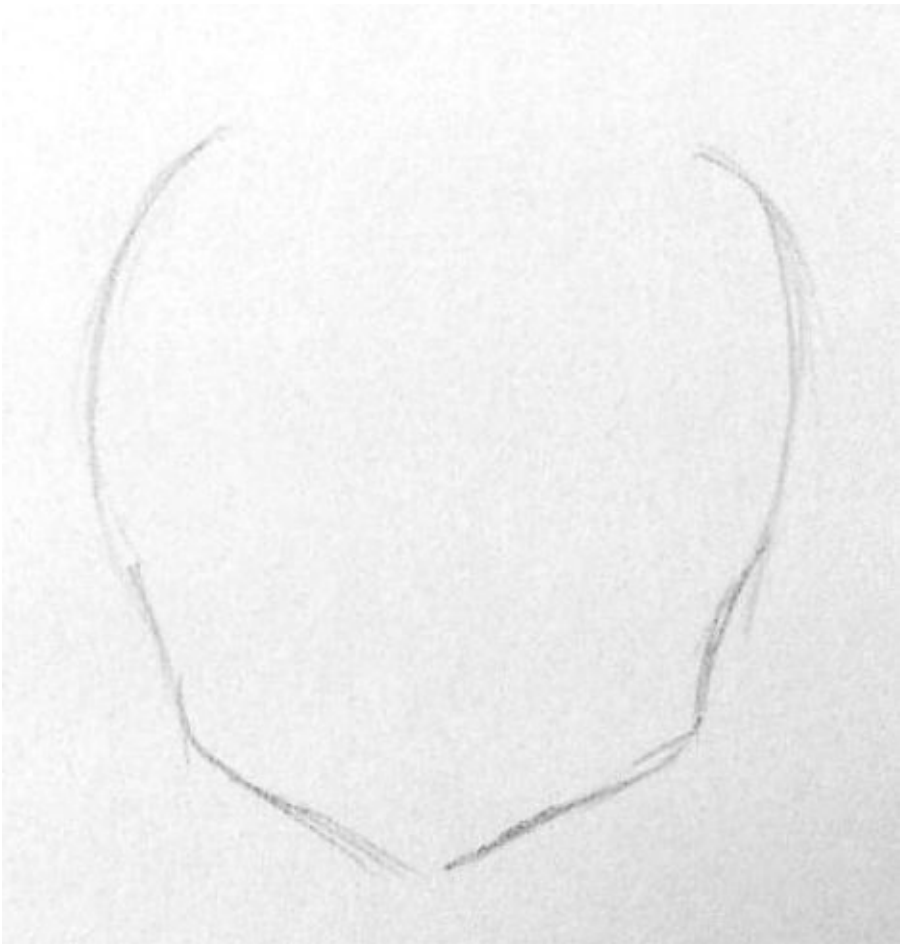
Step 2

Draw the front section of hair falling on the forehead and on the right cheek. Then, proceed to the hair on the head, which are parted in two sections. At last, draw the long strands of hair falling over the left shoulder.

4. ***Short girly hair***

Step 1

Draw the front profile of head of a girl.

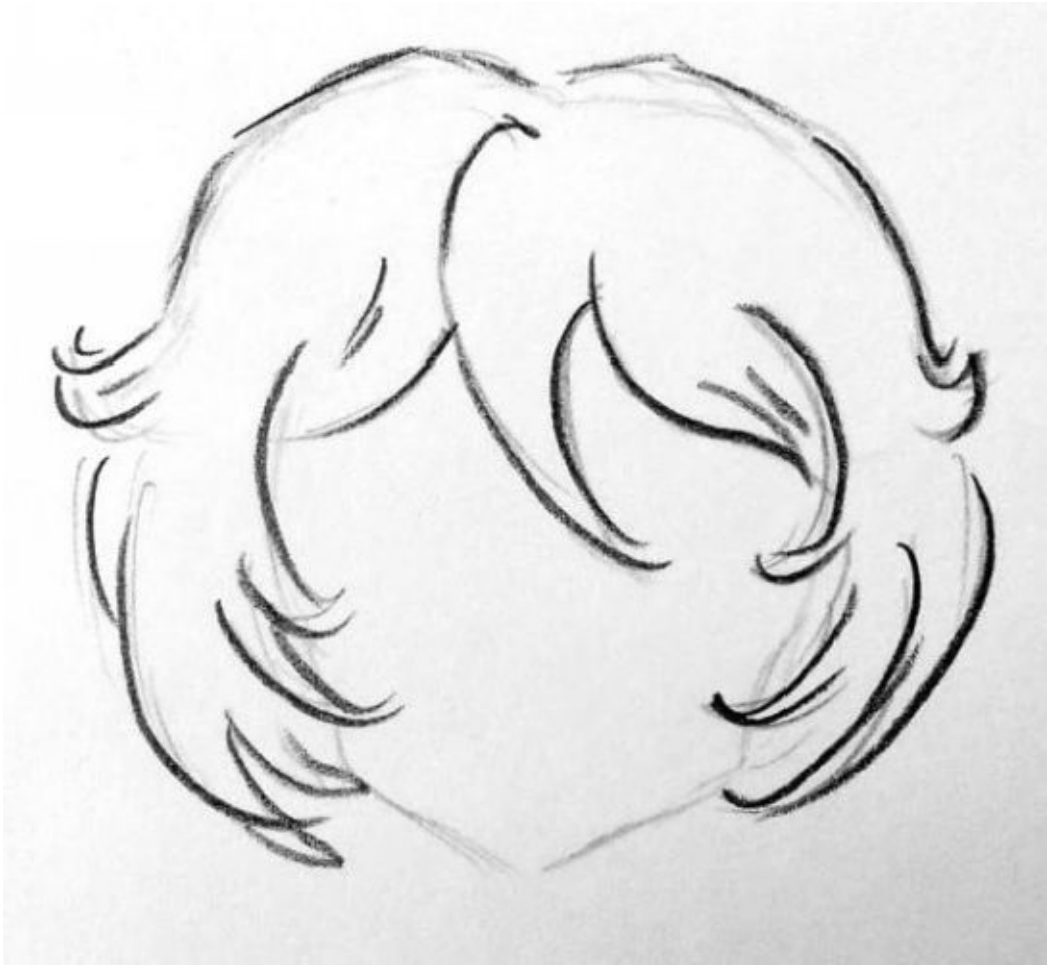


Step 2

Draw a light outline of bob-cut hair around the head; the hairs are divided into two parts on the tops and are embracing the cheeks. The height of the hair is the lowest at the partition and the highest on the sides.

Step 3

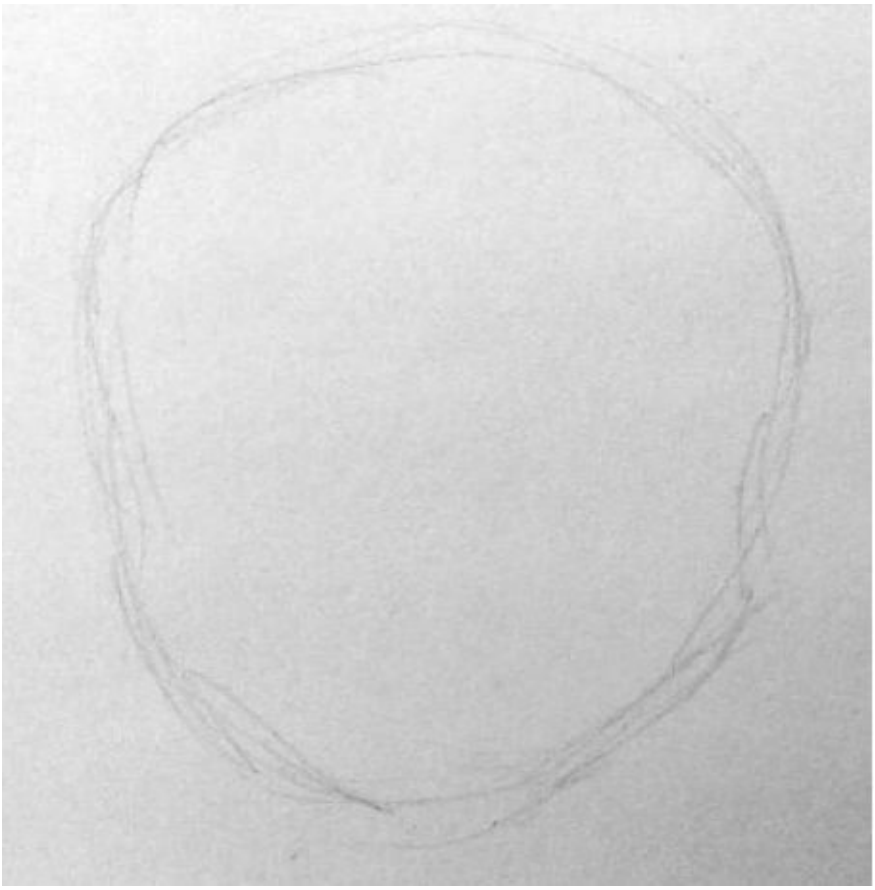
Finalize the outlines of hairs falling on the cheeks and somewhat over the eyes.



5. ***Teenage hairstyle***

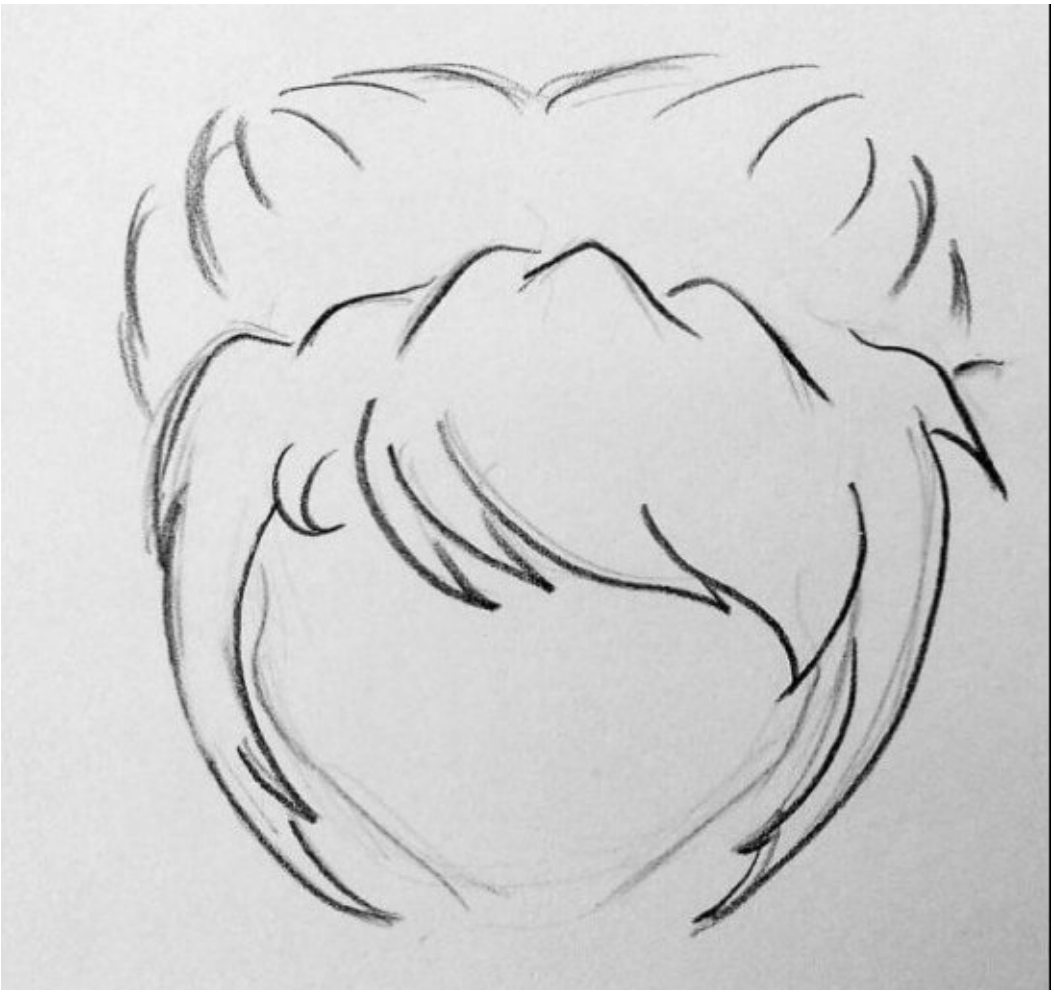
Step 1

Draw the front profile of head of a girl.



Step 2

Draw a line to depict the desired height of the hair, which is depicted at two different altitudes. Now draw different chunks of hair, two sections divided into ponytails and one section falling on the forehead and cheeks.



Step 3

Draw the ponytails falling on the two sides of head.

Chapter 3 Lips

After eyes, only mouth is there which can depict the intensity of expressions. There are several shapes of the mouth formed by combination of the arcs of lips. There are some shapes of curves formed by the lips of anime characters which are explained below:

- To form the shape of a happy mouth, the lips curve upwards.

- For an over-happy mouth, draw the upper lip curving downwards and the lower lip curving upwards. This is to show the wide open mouth when a character is extra happy or elated over something.

- For a fearful or dismayed mouth, draw both the lips forming a downward curve. The corners of the lips are relaxed. However, the lower lip curves up due to anguish
- When you want to draw a character who is shocked over something and his jaw drops, draw the lower lip curving upwards and the upper lip forming a downward curve. However, the upper lip forms a larger downward curve in this case.

- To draw the mouth of an angry character, typically of a cartoon character; the upper lip forms an upward curve and the lower lip forms a downward curve. This shape is formed by the elongation of the corners of lips, which are hauled up in a snarl.

Apart from these shapes of lips, there are different shapes of human lips, which are difficult to be explained in words. So, let’s just learn them through illustrations:

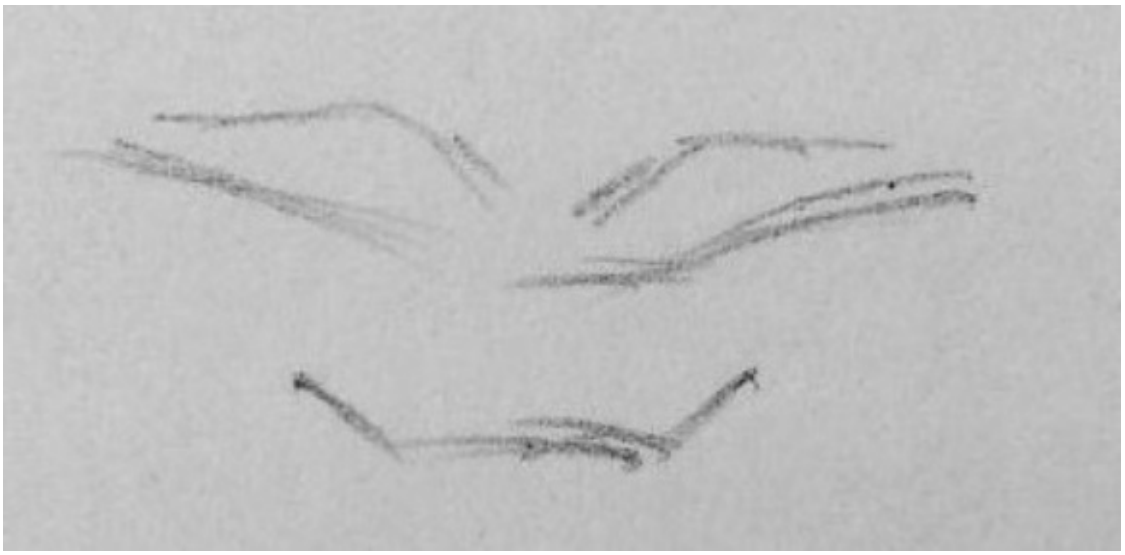
1. Type 1

Step 1

Draw two arcs or vermillion borders of the upper lip, almost in the V-shape.

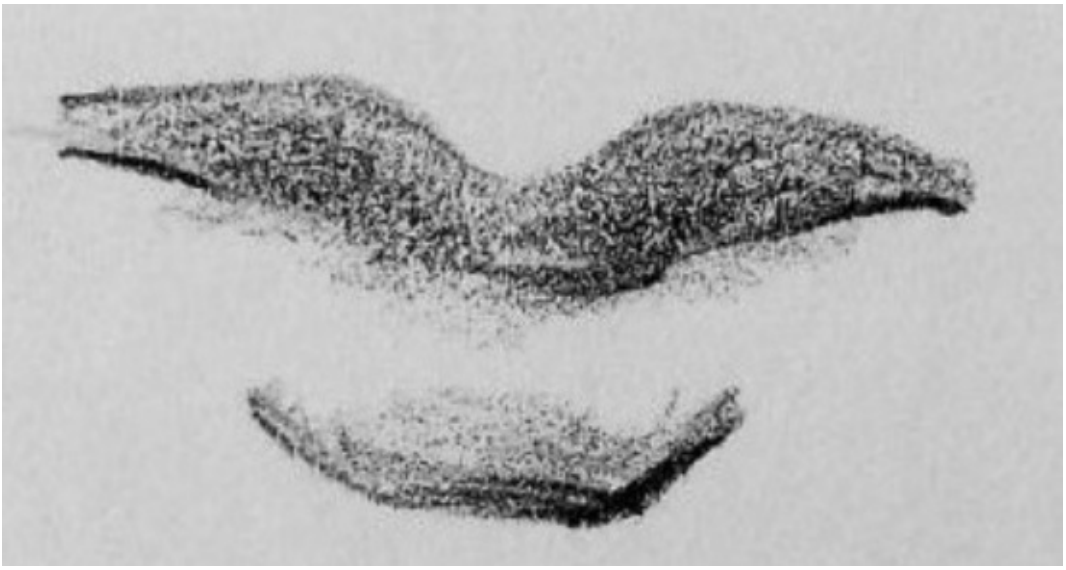
Step 2

Join the arcs of the upper lip with the help of a small V-shape. This part is called the cupid’s brow. Draw the lower lip.



Step 3

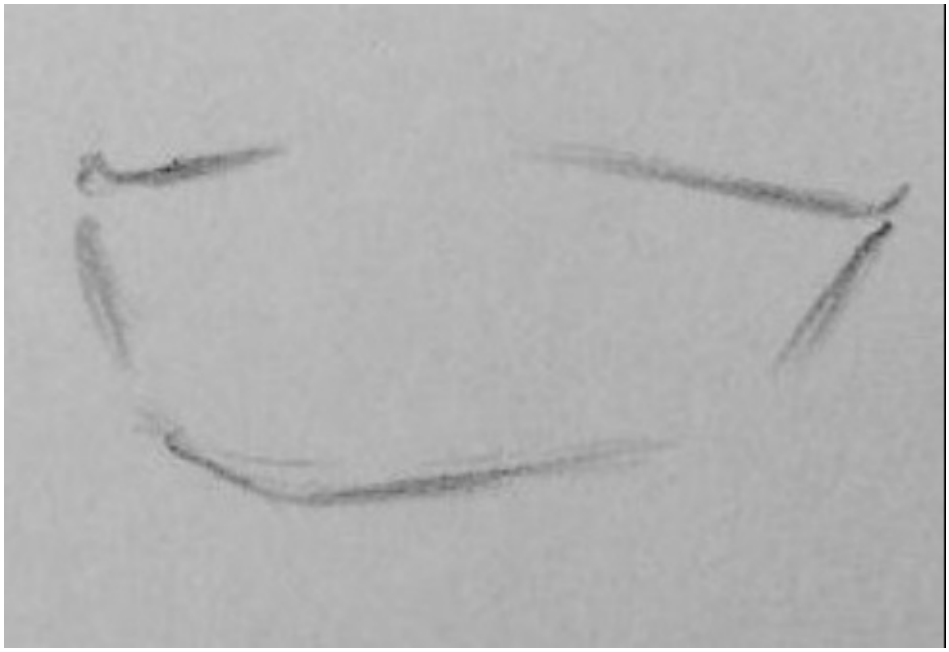
Give shading in the upper and lower lips. One right corner of the lip is shaded darker so that the left corner is highlighted. Moreover, it is not necessary to draw the complete outline of lips every time. Sometimes, it is more than enough to depict the lips partially.



2. Type 2

Step 1

Draw a complete outline for lips to form an outer border only.



Step 2

Draw the rugged partition between the lips. Thicken the border of the lips.

3 Type 3

Step 1

Draw the outline for upper and lower lips. The cupid’s brow is slightly diminished in these lips and the lower lip is thicker than the upper lip.

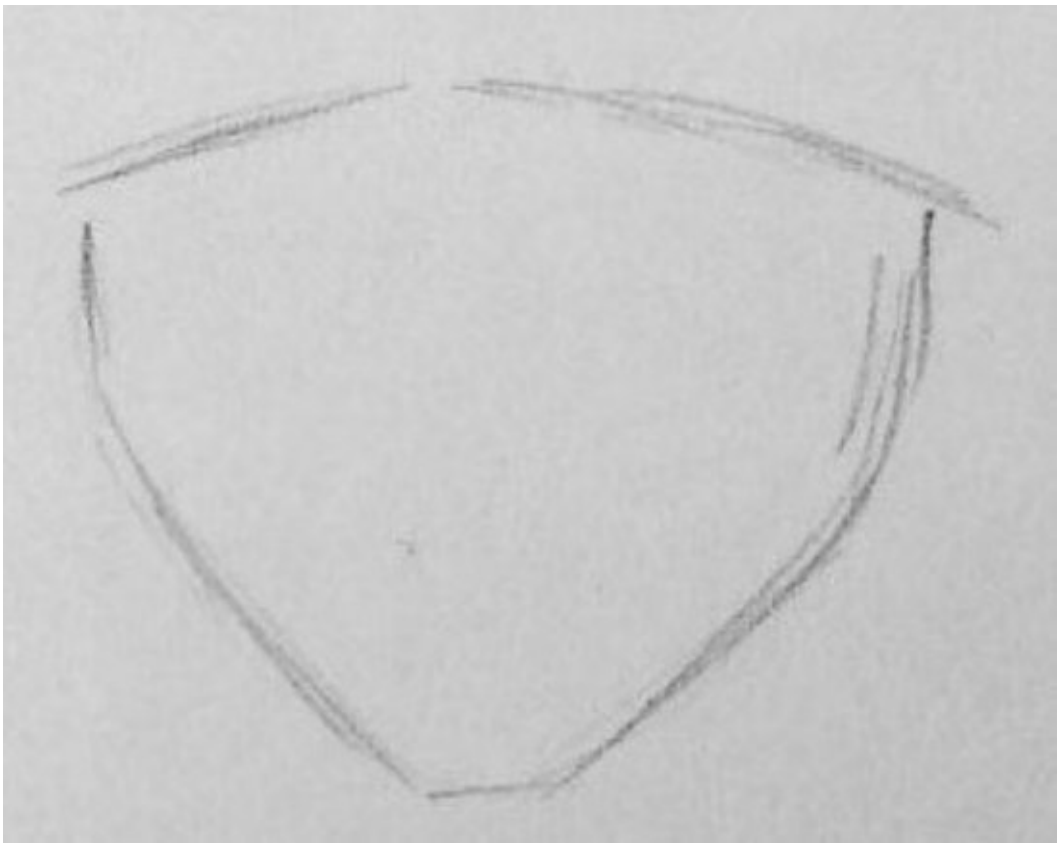
Step 2

Give shading in the upper lip and slightly shade the lower lip.

4 Type 4

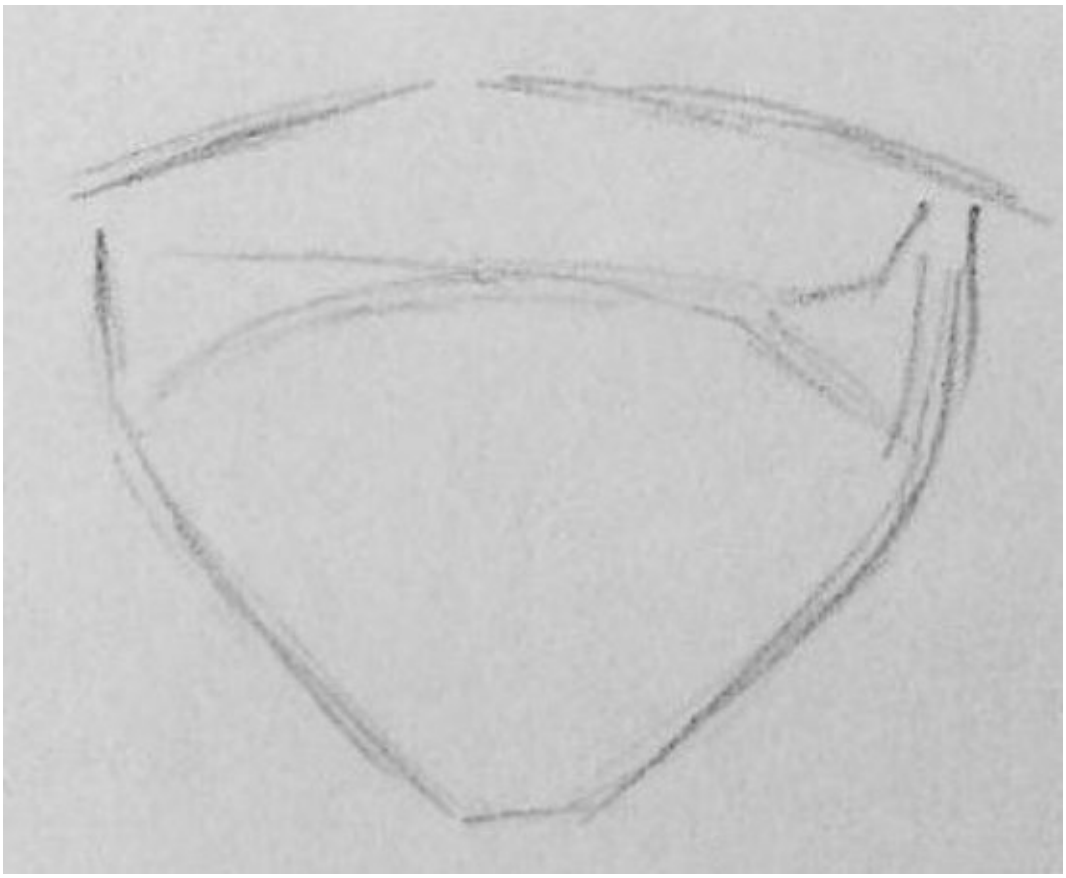
Step 1

Draw an open mouth; the upper lip is forming a slight downward curve and the lower lip is forming a deep upward curve.



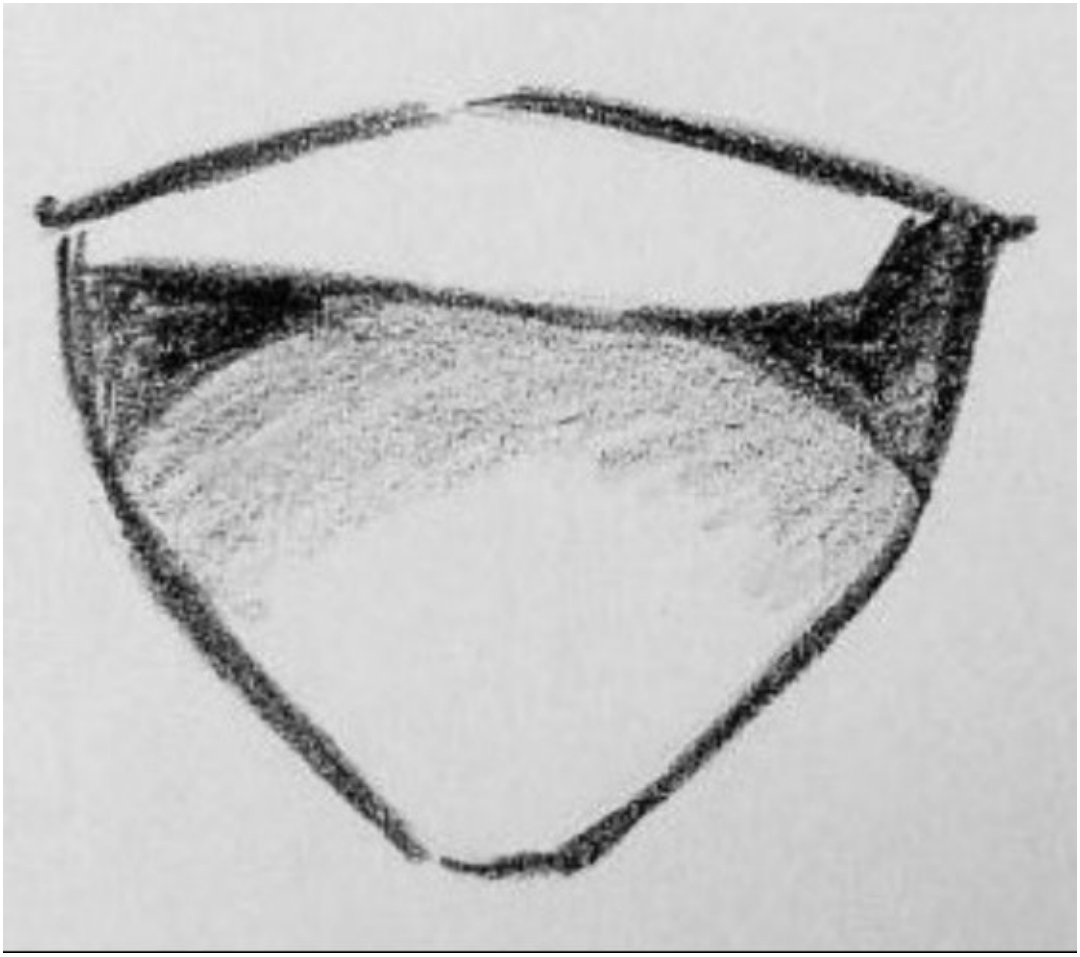
Step 2

Divide sections for teeth in the upper row and for tongue below the teeth.



Step 3

Here, you do not have to shade the lips. Just thicken the outline and give shading in teeth, tongue and the remaining background as shown in the picture.



5. Type 5

Step 1

Draw the arcs of lips shown from side profile as shown in the picture. The partial outlines do not depict the complete boundary of lips.

Step 2

Give slight shading in the lower lip.

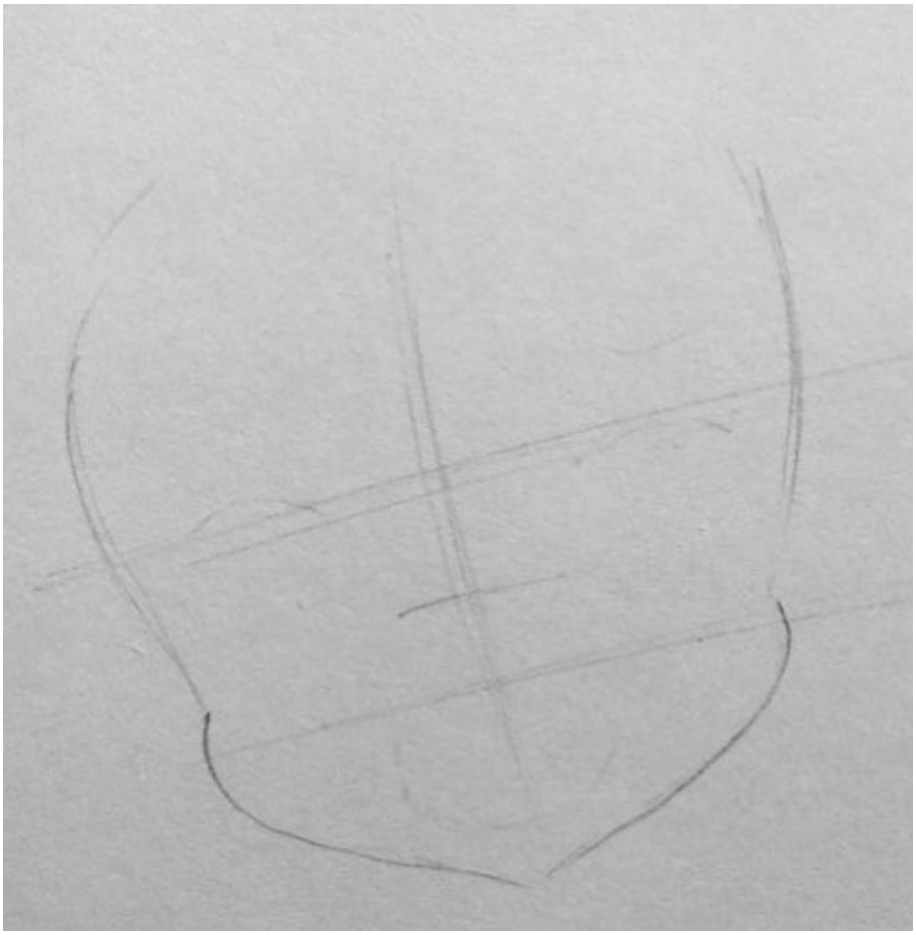
Part 2 Application of Expressions

It is no use learning to draw facial features individually if you do not learn how to use them in drawing faces. In this part of the book, you will learn the application of various facial expressions on faces of various age groups and genders.

Chapter 1 Emotions- Happy Baby

Step 1

Draw the outline of the face of a baby. Notice that the outline is different from that of a child or an adult. Draw two parallel lines for the placement of eyes and mouth.



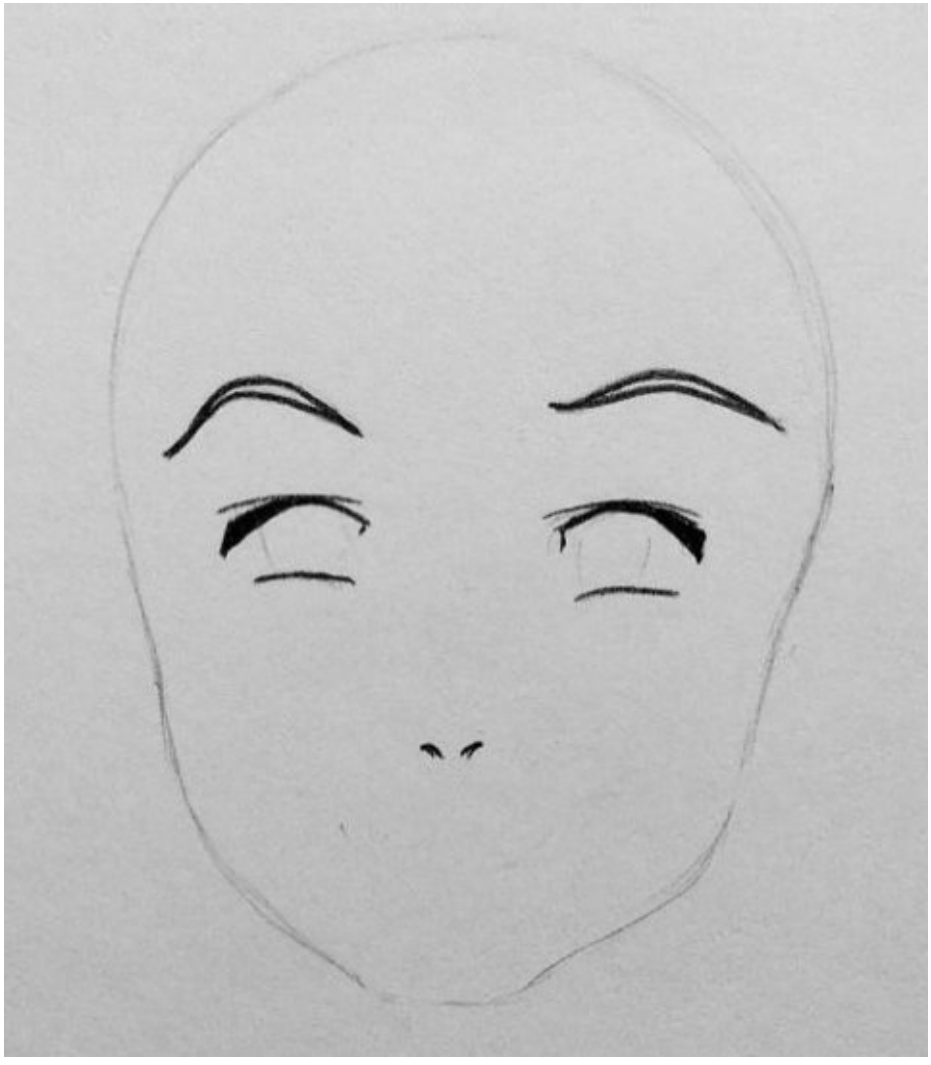
Step 2

Draw the eyes in downward curves and eyebrows in almost flat upward arc. Only a small set of parallel arcs is enough for depicting nose. Draw the mouth and tongue as shown in the illustration. Since we are drawing an infant, the features are not very well defined but the emotions are clearly visible.

Chapter 2 Emotions- Happy Child

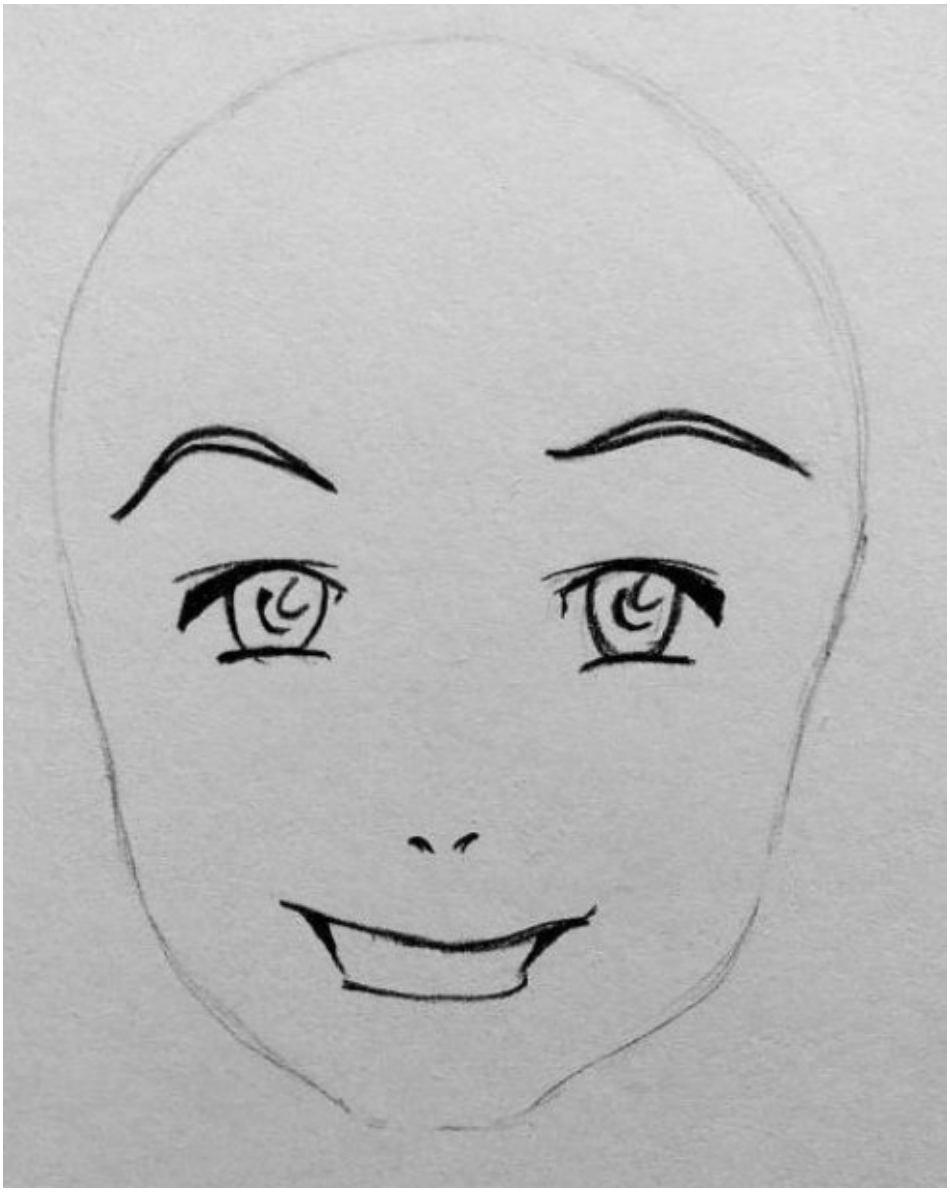
Step 1

Draw the outline for the face of child. Draw eyebrows and mark the placement of eyes. Mark pointers for nose as well.



Step 2

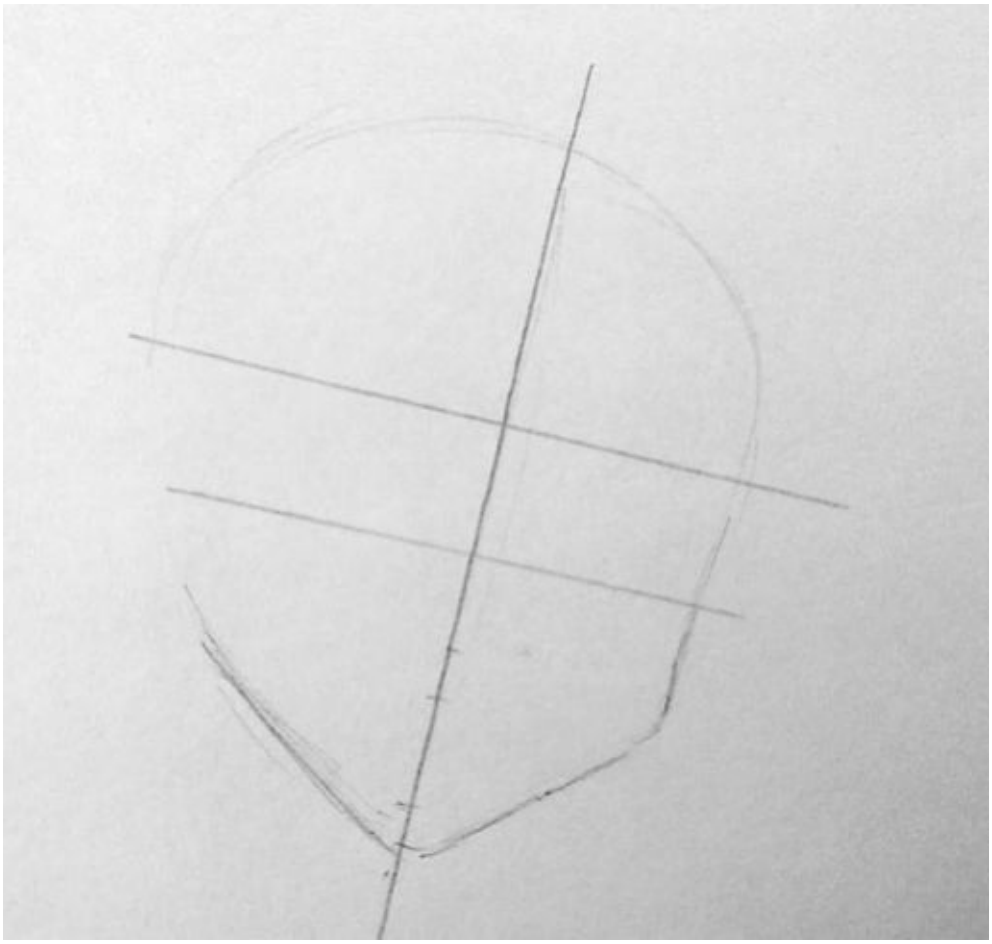
Draw sclera, pupil and iris for the eyes and draw mouth. We have not elaborated the depiction of features since we are just showing how the features are drawn in conjunction with each other.



Chapter 3 Emotions- Awful

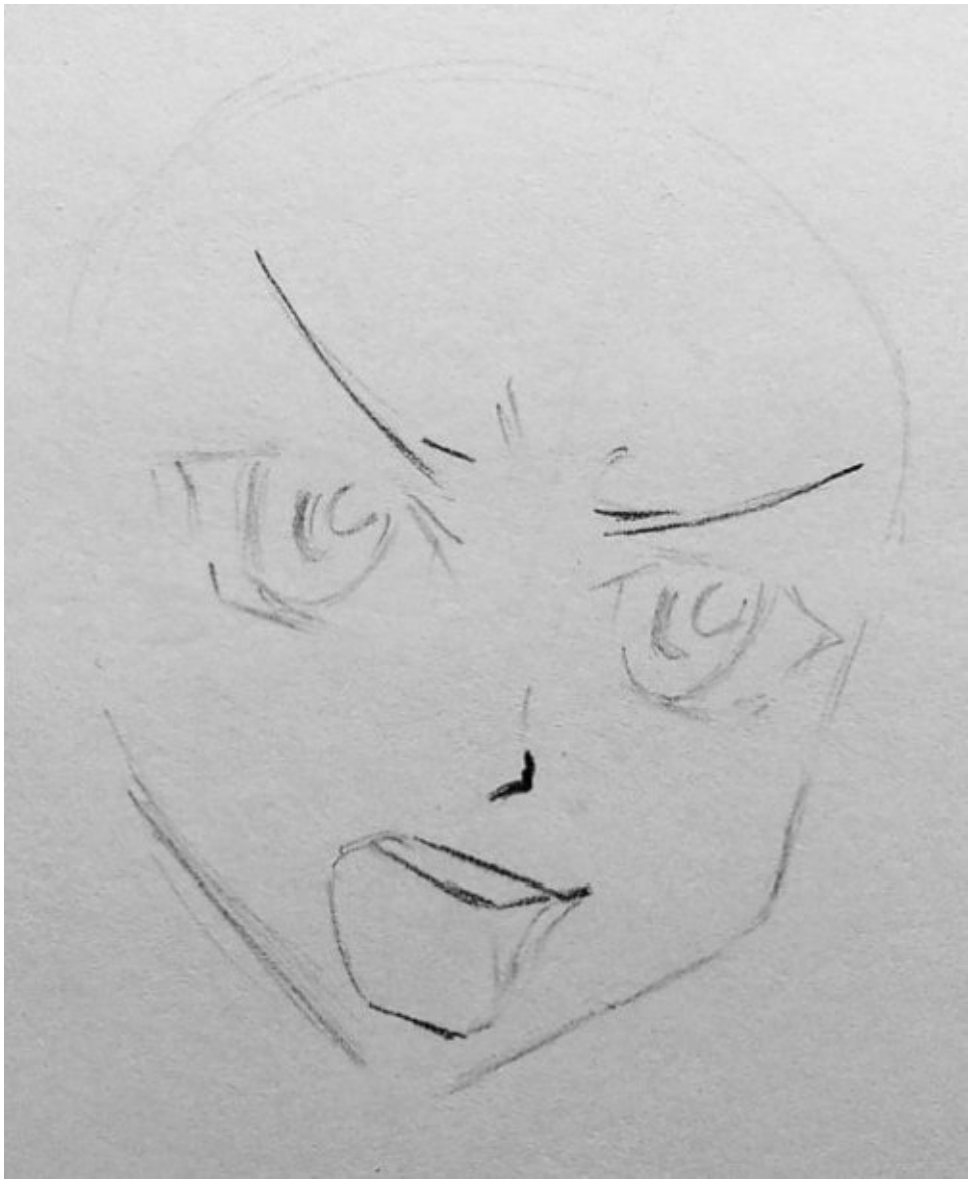
Step 1

Draw the outline for the face tilted a little on the right. Draw two parallel lines for the placement of eyes and nose.



Step 2

Draw the enlarged eyes and infuriated eyebrows. Notice that there are wrinkles on the forehead as well. Draw a small arc for nose. Draw the mouth, teeth and tongue as shown in the illustration. The face has a sharp jaw line.



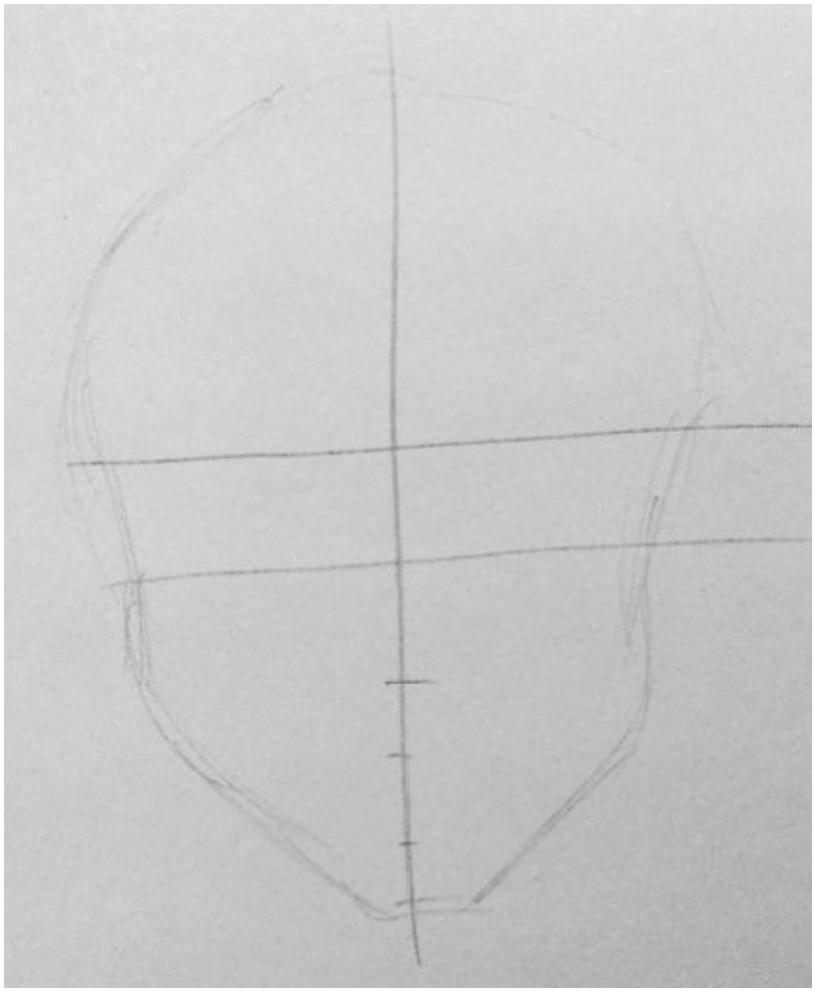
Step 2

Highlight the final outlines of the eyes and mouth. Give shading in the mouth, tongue and the empty area on the inner side of cheeks. Give shading in the eyes and slightly shade the eyebrows.

Chapter 4 Emotions- Disgusted

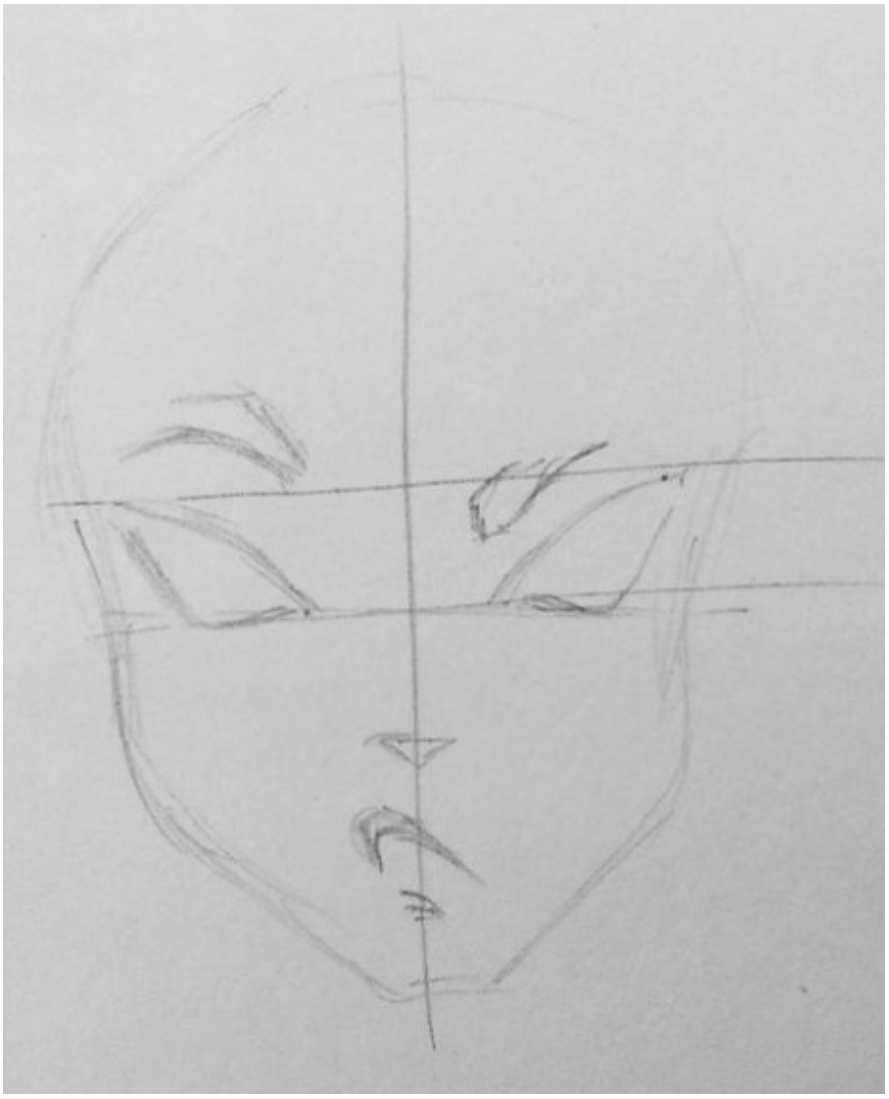
Step 1

Draw the outline of the face. Mark two parallel lines for the placement of eyes and pointers for nose and lips.



Step 2

Draw a light outline for eyes, nose and mouth. The eyes and mouth are shown crooked to display the disgusted feeling of the person. The eyebrows are also twisted towards the center.



Step 3

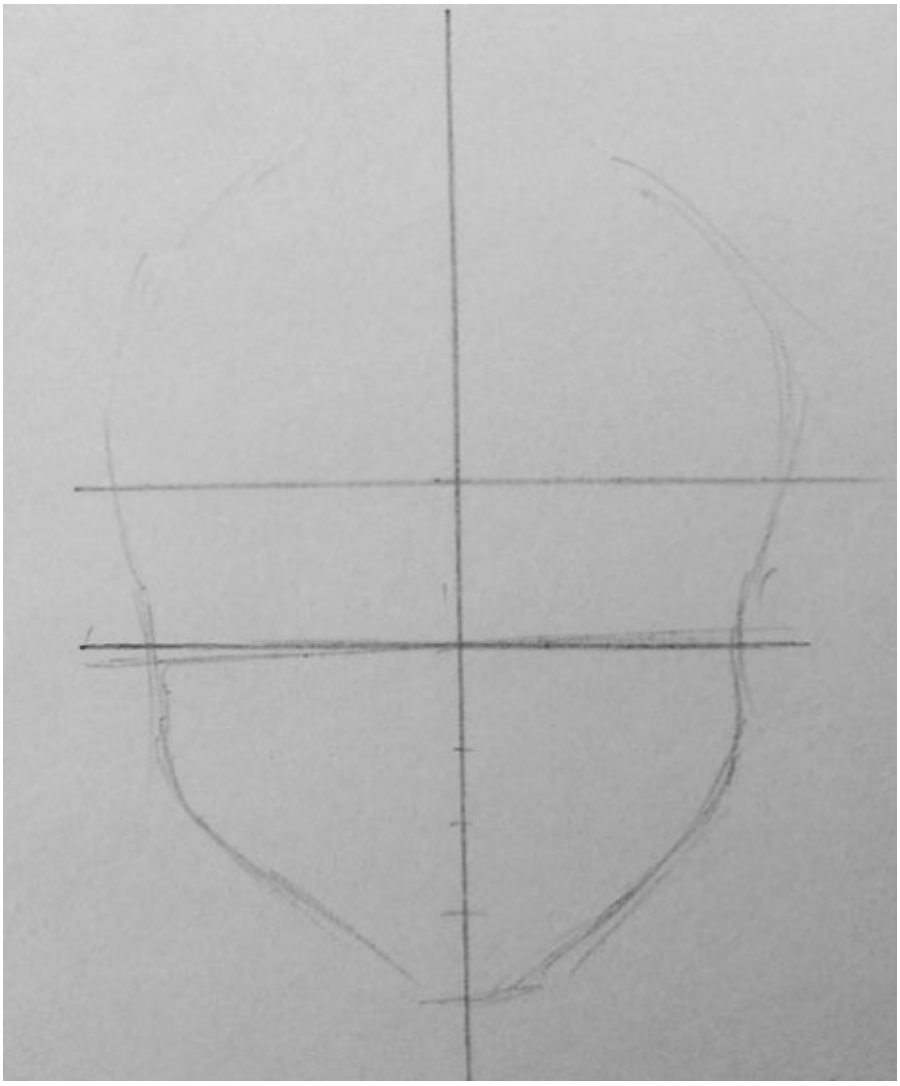
Give final touch to the facial features. Do not forget to highlight the eyes.

Chapter 5 Emotions- Shocked

Step 1

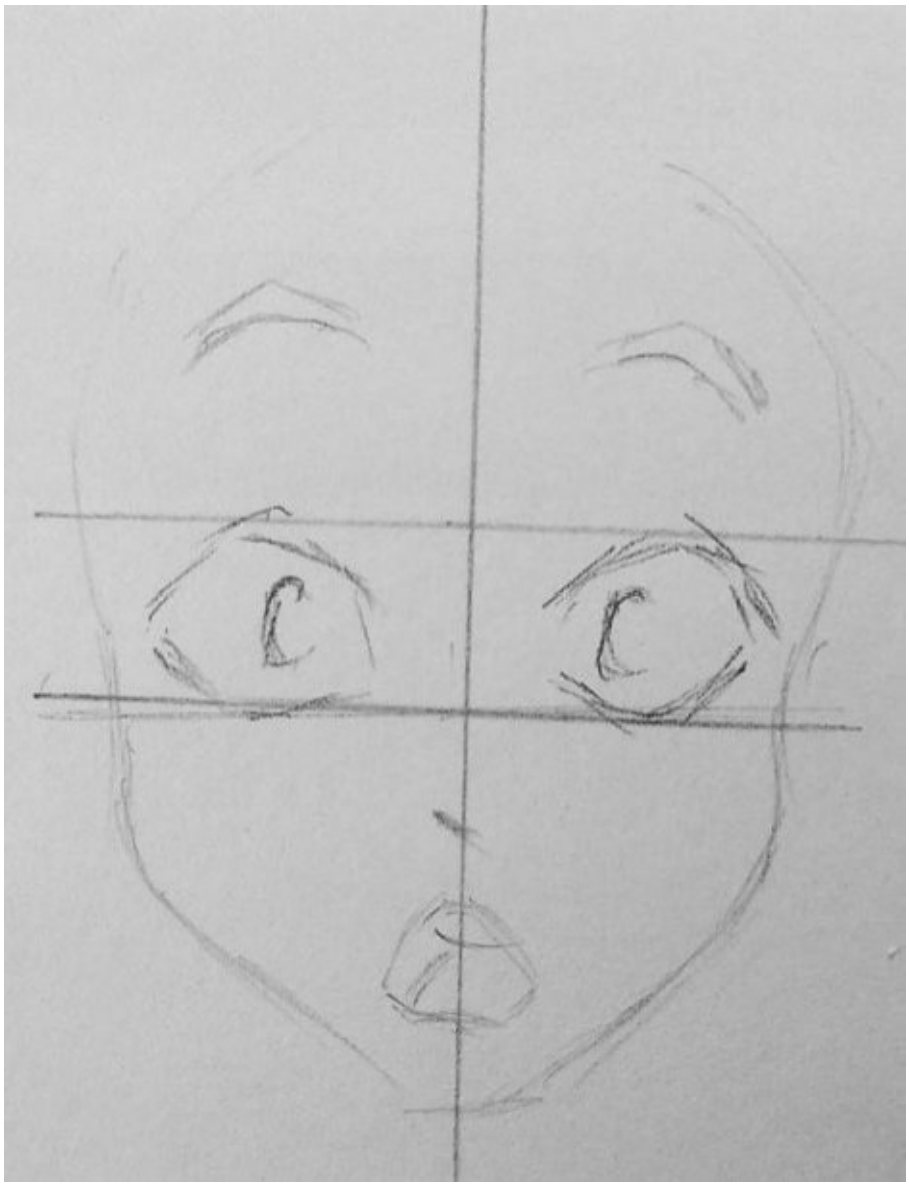
Draw the outline for the face and mark two parallel lines for eyes.

Mark pointers for the placement of nose and mouth.



Step 2

Draw eyes, wide open in shock. The mouth is also open because the jaw drops in shock. The eyebrows are placed above their normal position.



Step 3

Highlight the features of the face. Thicken the eyebrows; darken the eyes, eyeballs and eyelids; give shading in the mouth, tongue and teeth.

Part 3 Anime Characters

After you have gone through application of expressions in different faces, now it is time to learn drawing a few anime characters.

Chapter 1 Bella- Longing for Love

Step1

We are drawing a tender girl, Bella. Draw the outline for her body and face with accurate proportions. Her hands are folded almost in prayer position in front of her body.

Step 2

Draw her eyes and eyebrows. The eyes are large and moist and therefore, the reflections in the eyes are shown slightly larger. The eyebrows are also raised. Draw mouth and hands of Bella.

Step 3

Draw long flowing hair of the anime girl. The hairs are also falling on the forehead. Draw the clothing as well.

Step 4

Draw long, slender legs of Bella and complete rest of the drawing.

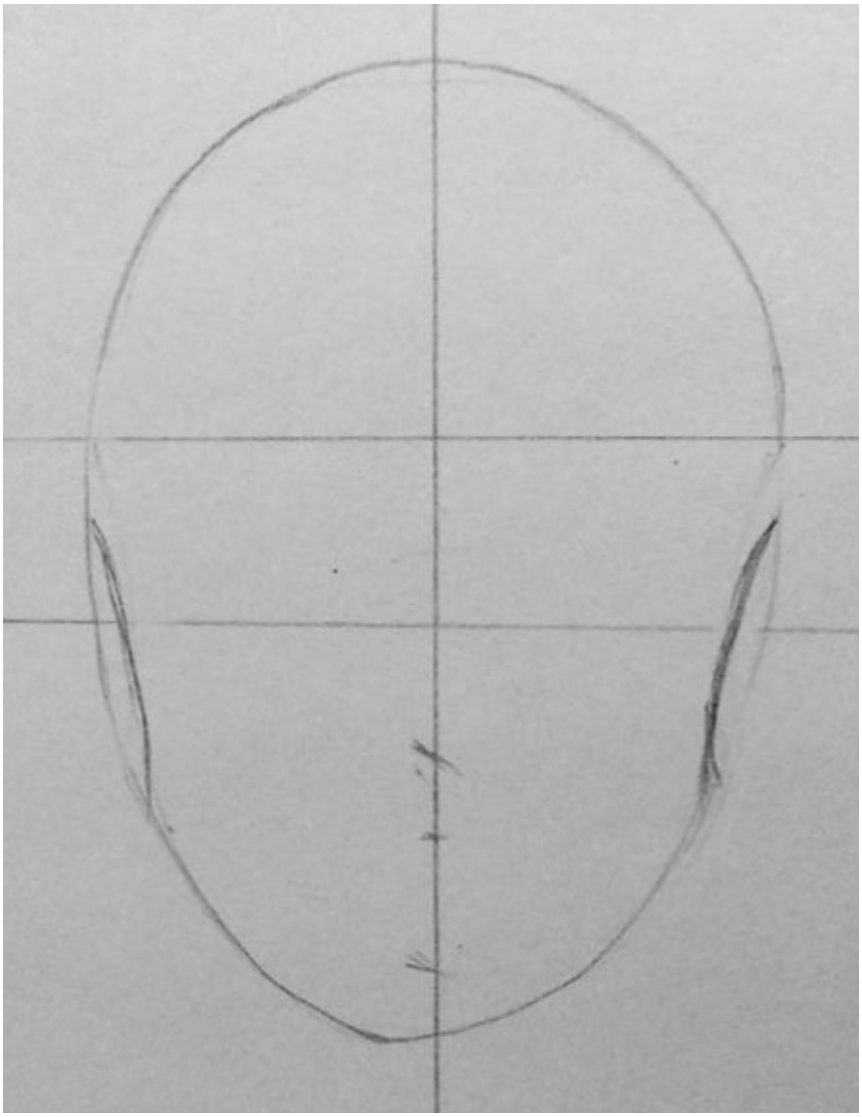
Step 5

Give light shading in the face, but highlight the eyes. Shade the hair, clothing, hands and legs.

Chapter 2 Chia- Shocked

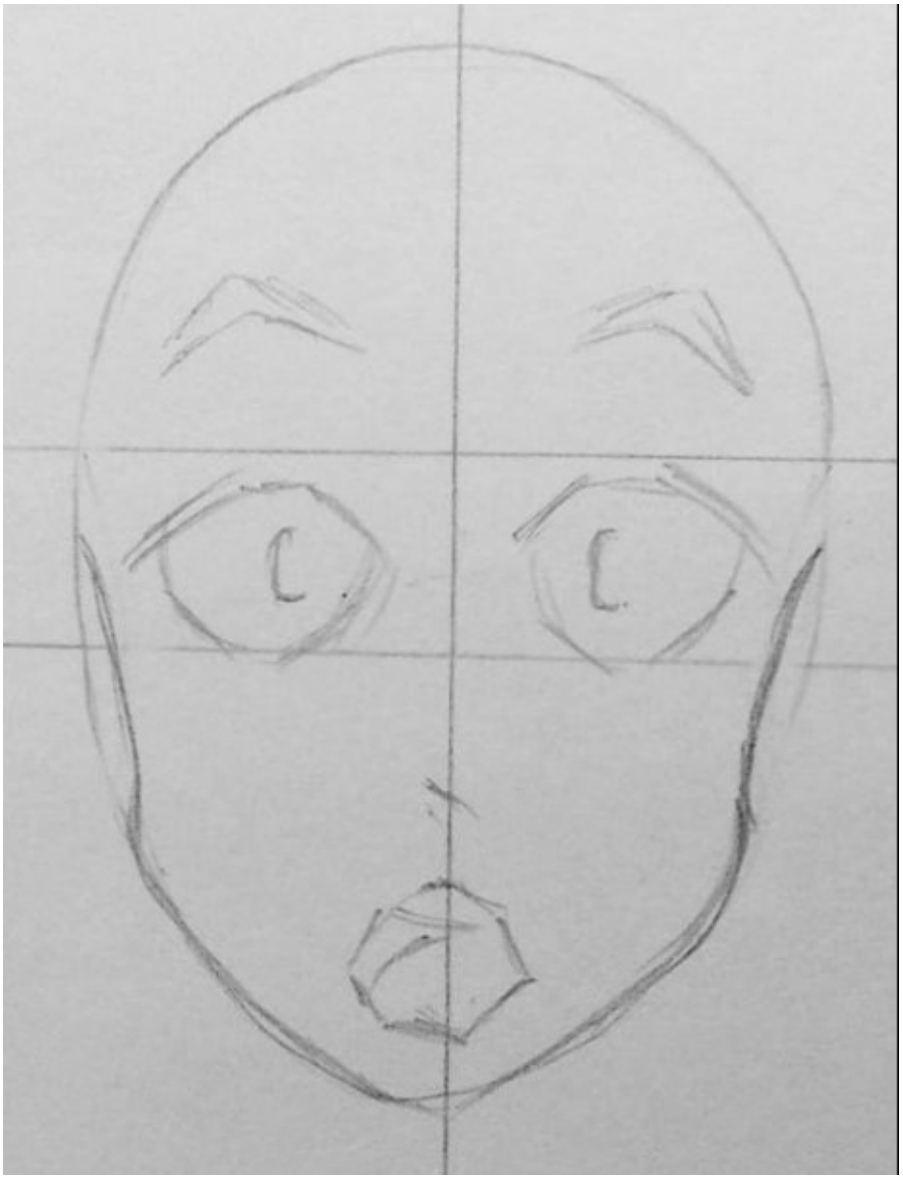
Step 1

Draw the outline for the face of Chia. Draw parallel lines for the placement of eyes and mark pointers for nose and mouth. Draw arcs for drawing ears.



Step 2

Draw eyes, eyebrows, nose and mouth to show the expressions of shock on face. The eyes are wide open and the eyebrows are placed above the normal position. The mouth is also open in shock.



Step 3

Highlight the facial features and draw hairs falling on the forehead and on the cheeks. Since this is a young lady, the hairstyle is also a little rugged. Some of the strands are curved outwards.

Step 4

Finalize the outlines for facial expressions, neck, hair and clothing. Darken the edges if the eyes and draw small eyeballs with a hint of reflection. Give shading in the mouth; the tongue is shaded darker than the teeth and the remaining area is shaded darkest.

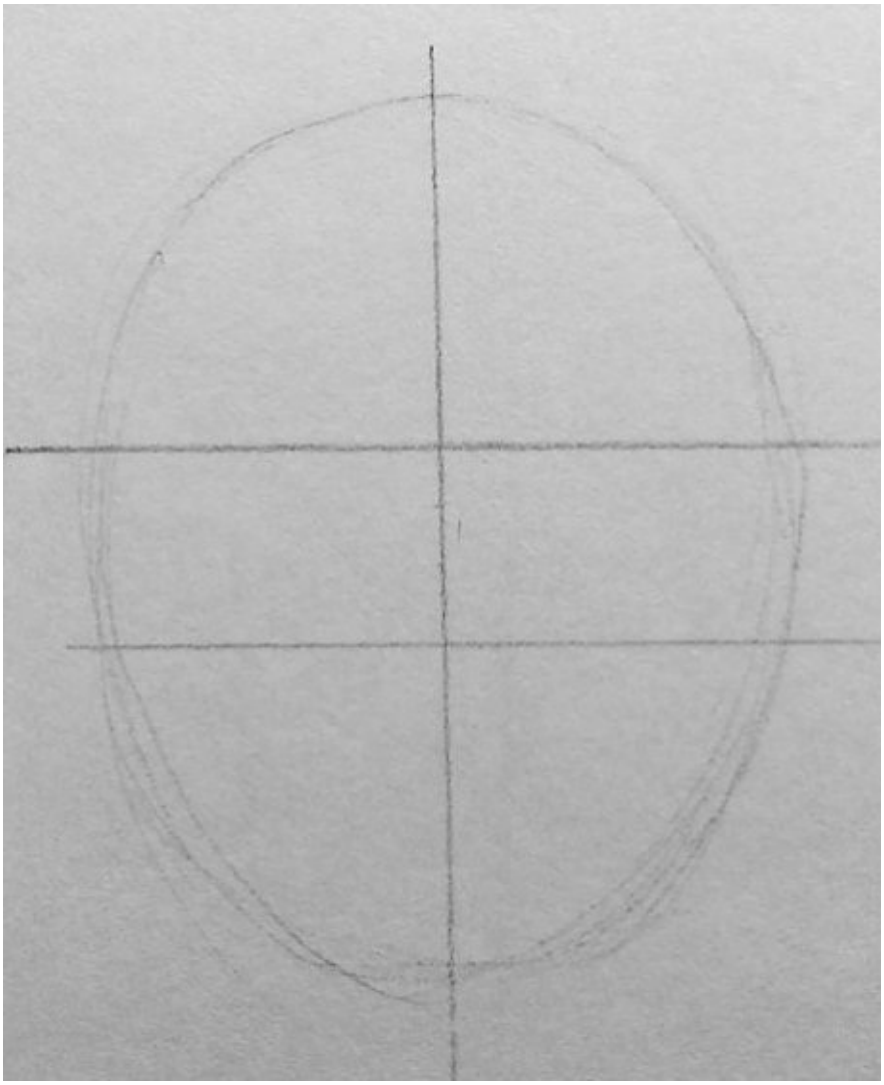
Step 5

Give shading in the hair, forehead, cheeks, mouth, neck and eyes. You can refer to the picture given below. However, if you want to make any changes to the shading, you are free to do that with anime characters.

Chapter 3 Victor-Angry

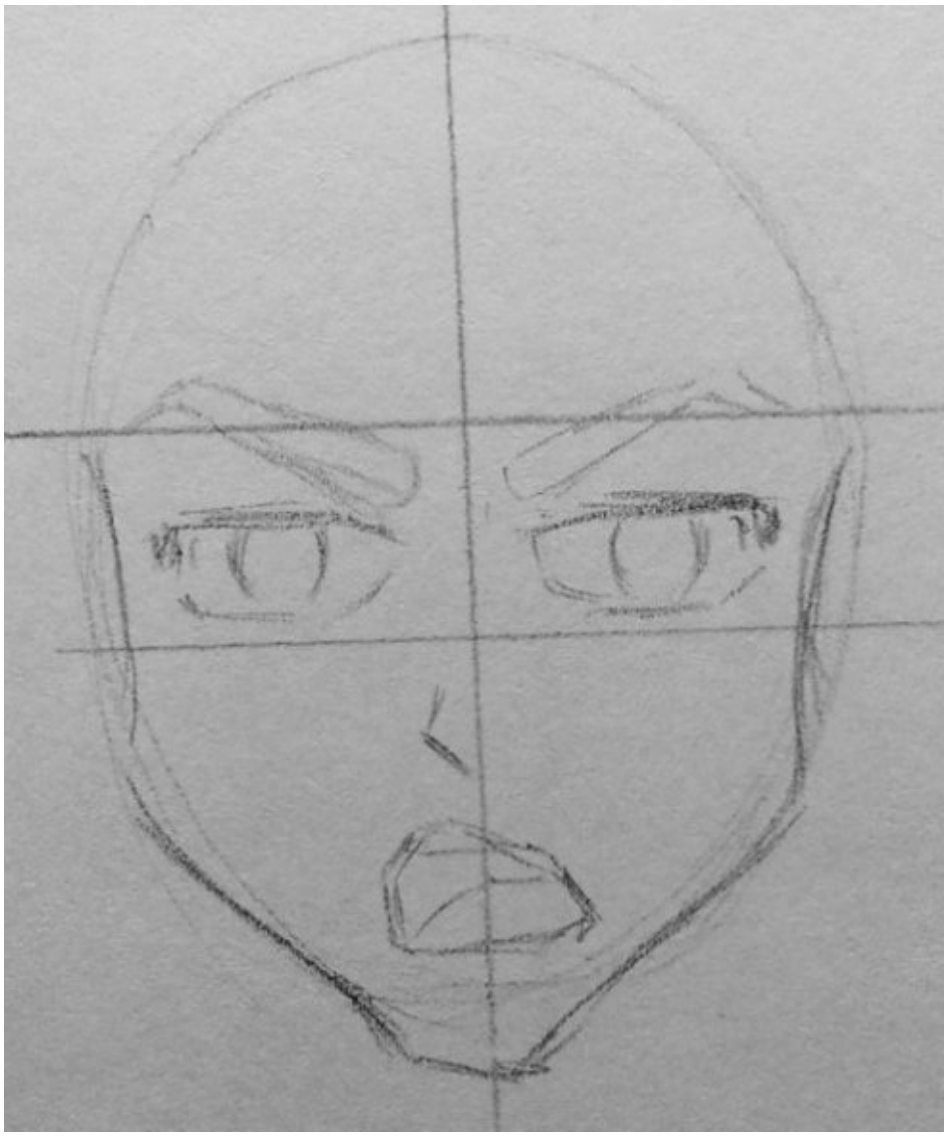
Step 1

Draw the outline for the face of Victor. Draw a set of parallel lines for eyes and mark pointers for the placement of nose and mouth.



Step 2

Draw eyes, eyebrows, nose and mouth. The character is shown angry. Therefore, you must draw the features keeping in mind the emotions of Victor.

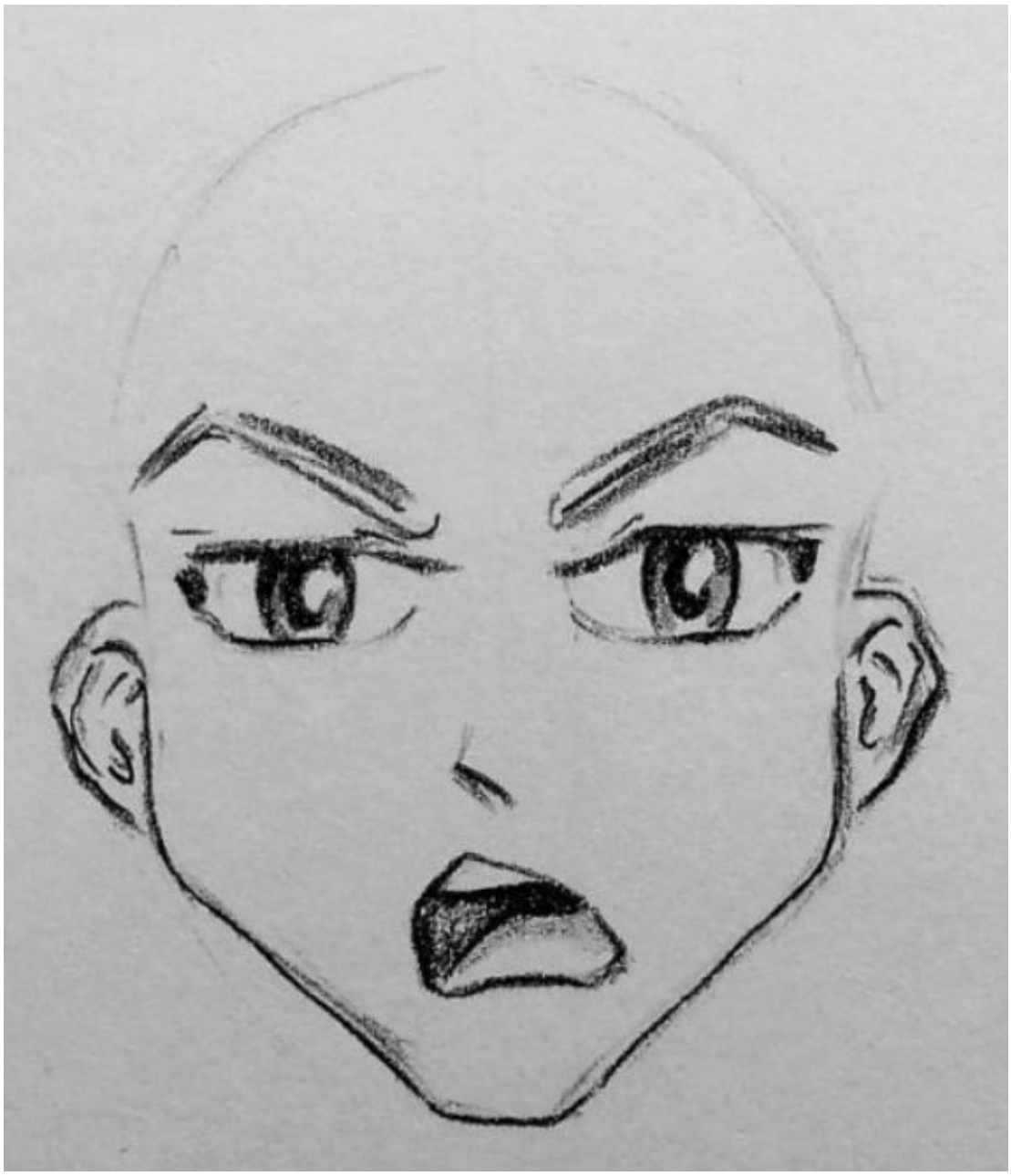


Step 3

Highlight the facial features. Give depth to the eyes and show reflection in slightly larger ovals. You can either erase this portion of reflection or use white poster color. The white color also gives the same feeling as if you have left the area empty. Darken the upper edge of the eyes.

Give shading in the eyebrows. While drawing the mouth, give darker shading in the blank area which is left around teeth and tongue. Notice that the teeth are not completely white. Give light shading in the teeth and shade one shade darker in the tongue.

Draw the ears and draw grooves for its inner parts.



Step 4

Draw the rugged hairstyle of Victor. He is a young boy and hence, carries a craggy hairdo. Draw his clothing, which is the collar of a shirt around his neck.

Step 5

Give shading in his hair; the shading in the upper portion of the hair is light, while it is darker in the strands around the neck. Give depth to the collars of the shirt with darker shading around the neck. Mark the placement of shadow of the face falling on the neck and give light shading. Give shading in the ears as well.

Conclusion

After understanding distinct facial features of anime characters in detail, you must be feeling confident of drawing them on your own. Among the wide range of facial expressions of anime characters, the famous ones are popped vein and sweat drop features. In some genres, there are more dedicated expressions for individual characters. Some of them are simple to understand- happiness, anger, shock, fear and other generic expressions. For other expressions, you have to refer to the context.

If you are new to anime, you will find some expressions absurd for the first time. But, as you go through more and more characters, you will get habitual to them. Some child characters display gestures such as pulling down their one eyelid plus sticking out their tongue. This expression is typically found in elementary girls and boys. Sometimes, the eyes or the pupil are shown in red color to express love or even anger.

To express blush in a character, you can simply use a splash of red or pink color. Many anime characters blush all the time. This is done so that the child characters appear cute and the adult characters appear sexual. And, if you give ruddy or reddish color in the entire face, it means that the character is embarrassed over something. You can also use blush to portray distress or illness, but use blue or purple colors instead of red. This expression can be used to express sexual arousal in elder characters.

Another important feature is that of squiggle or beady eyes. These are used to express hopelessness or confusion. You can combine beady eyes with blush if needed. Such eyes

are also used to express the feeling of being dazed or overwhelmed.

You can create an “X” in the eyes to express extreme happiness. In addition, draw an exaggerated open mouth. It is an overstated expression but is common in anime characters.

How to Draw Anime

Li Shen

Practical Guide for Beginners

How to Draw Anime:

Practical Guide for Beginners

By Li Shen

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Introduction

How much are we really aware of Japan, its customs, culture, art and people? Have you ever wondered where and how are created all the fabulous characters in the world of Japanese animation? From where did all this inexhaustible source of imagination and ideas come? If you are interested to know more about anime, then the first chapter of this book will respond to most of your questions.

The remaining chapters of the book “How to Draw Anime” is dedicated entirely to the process of designing anime characters. The step by step instructions you will found in this book will allow you to quickly and in an interesting way master drawing anime young women, girls and handsome anime male protagonist. Six of the seven chapters of the book are drawings explaining how you can create these unusual and inspiring characters using just a pencil and a sketchbook.

The aforementioned is the very essence of this book, meaning you will learn in an easy way by looking at the pictures how to make drawings of anime characters, including:

- Angry Beauty
- Anime Girl in Action
- Anime City Girl
- Anime Princess
- Winter Anime Girl
- Angry Anime Guy

Chapter 1- What is Anime?

Anime is a style of cartoon animation originating from Japan, with a characteristic way of creating characters and backgrounds. While some anime movies are completely hand drawn, computer-assisted in the creation of anime is usual. Stories of anime are usually imagined. Anime is broadcast on television, distributed on media such as VHS or DVD, and via games for consoles or computers. Many anime works were created under the influence of Japanese comics known as manga, and some anime titles are converted into feature films or series.

Anime has many genres, as well as traditional films and series. These genres include adventure, science fiction, children's stories, love stories, medieval fantasy, erotica, horror, action, and drama.

Most anime contains elements from several different genres, as well as variations of themes, and it makes tough sorting several genres. Anime can have a seemingly simple action, but at the same time may contain much more complex, deeper plot, and character development. It is not unusual that anime oriented primarily to action include humor, love, and even sharp social comment. The same may apply to the anime-oriented love stories that may contain strong action elements.

Short history of anime

Moving pictures and other animated features began to emerge during the early twentieth century. **Japanese artists** and authors have not started to experiment with animation until 1914, primarily because American animation studios began to dominate the market. The participation of Japan in creating the animation was flowing very slowly. One of the reasons was probably the long-standing self-imposed isolation from the rest of the world.

After the war World War II, a man named **Osamu Tezuka** worked in a factory and was impacted by the early works of Walt Disney. While trying to draw original characters modeled after the Disney style, he has gained great popularity. However, the work that has defined the animation in Japan was a world successful animated series Astro Boy from 1963. His interest in animation **crowned him as the creator of the anime** and graphic novels, known as manga.

Tezuka and his studio have paved the way to Japanese animation; in the 1970s appeared a change and growth of this form of entertainment. Different trends by various authors began to develop. These trends are passed down through generations and are present in the anime today. Instead of the usual struggle of good against evil, writers have begun to apply the **compelling twists and turns** and new concepts to make the story more interesting. E.g. anime Lupin III shows the “good” protagonist with a somewhat mischievous personality. Mobile Suit Gundam is a story about the interstellar war between the Earth and its first stellar colonies. From these concepts were born ideas and components for future anime.

During the 1980s, Japanese artist **Go Nagai** began to create an **anime for adults,** breaking concept that animation is only for children. From satire to full nudity and sexual engagement, brilliant ideas has attracted the attention of a greater number of fans and admirers of anime. In 1988, he created a work that transcends all boundaries and was deemed to have been ahead of his time.

The film **“Akira”** is set in an apocalyptic and futuristic Tokyo, where the motorcycle gang faces numerous obstacles as they learn that one member has ominous psychic abilities that can destroy the world. This anime in the eyes of many fans was the trigger for opening the eyes of the true potential of anime movies. In 1995, he made a step towards even better works. Anime **“Ghost in the Shell”** explored the depths of the human mind, displaying elements of psychological manipulation, conflicts between life and machines.

That same year, two studies have teamed up to create an anime that will be very famous in the animation industry. Gainax and Production IG have been working hard to create the **“Neon Genesis Evangelion”**. This epic anime series of 26 episodes placed events in the year 2015, where “angels” from a parallel universe come to planet Earth and attacked the human race. As an act of self-defense, bio-mechanical machines were created, called “Evangelion,” which are managed by three candidates to defend the planet.

Series itself contains everything its predecessors did not have, at the same time involves a great amount of depth of the characters, and twists in the story, breathtaking action, and historical, scientific and biblical elements. This unique anime led to the emergence of **“Eve” phenomenon in Japan** and was considered to be highly appreciated by the critics.

Anime, as a medium of escape from reality, allowed the Japanese viewers to sink into worlds that are entirely different, with different cultures and people. Even anime in which the place of events is the Japan of today, unique appearance and character design continues to create a sense that this is something more wild and adventurous than Japan in reality.

The fact that anime characters initially looked like westerns, but acted as Japanese and have Japanese names, helped to create a bond between the characters and the Japanese audience. The Japanese audience was able to see the characters as the Japanese, but with a little more worldliness, freedom and diversity in them.

Artistic techniques in anime are very sophisticated and are the main factor in making this genre had so much influence on Western pop culture. One very important aspect of the

anime is **attention to detail**. Tezuka drew Astro boy`s **eyes large and rounded** on purpose to reflect the expression of the face that will allow him to present a wide range of emotions.

Display of various emotions is different in the anime and is quite distinctive in relation to the American cartoons. In addition to facial expressions, the artists will also draw foreign **physical elements that will emphasize an emotion**, which makes it more spontaneous and anime more unique as a genre. E.g. Elements such as **noticeable veins** in the form of crosses on the left or right side of the head of a character, when irritated, or an **abnormally large drop of sweat** on his head, when the character is in trouble. **Blush** is another element that is overstated. Rough red lines under the eyes of the character will appear when they find themselves in a romantic or unpleasant situation.

Unlike American cartoons, in which the proportions of the body are of the excessive size and at odds with the rest of the body, the **proportions of the body of anime** characters are identical to proportions **of genuine people**. This highlights the real aspect of the anima as the characters are created to be like real people.

Unlike Disney cartoons, where bright details on the characters almost do not exist, in the anime, an **important role have an adequate lighting, shadows, and shading**. The characters must have appropriate lighting and shade on their clothes, face and most tangled **hair which is one of the most difficult elements of the drawing**.

Since it is almost impossible to get out almost every piece of hair (unless it comes to computer-produced model), the artists draw the hair with thicker threads, which enable them to maneuver with shading and lighting. The light in the eyes of anime characters is also very lively and vividly. **The reflection of the cornea is very bright and large** in relation to the eye. **Glare** tends to increase when the character is about to cry, or when there is a feeling of envy toward someone or something.

Why did I tell you this short story about anime? I think it will help you to know important things about drawing anime characters so you could easily draw it yourself. Now, take a

paper and a pencil and let`s get started!

Chapter 2- Angry Beauty

Among anime characters, you can find plenty of angry manga beauty with lovely but bitter faces. Let`s try to draw one of this intriguing figures, starting from the contours of her face. I will name her Aruka like a manga character I once watched on TV.

Start drawing with a lead pencil without pressing the paper hard as shown in the picture below. Of course, first you will draw those large distinct eyes and a little mouth characteristic of all manga girls. As you know, the chin is always a bit sharp and a nose can be just a spot like in the following pictures.

After, you will thicken the contours with a thin black marker as in the following picture and you will get an expression on a face of a cute but angry manga girl. Look closely at her eyes, eyebrows and a shape of her mouth.

Next, we’ll add her abundant hair with a few pencil strokes; you can see how in the following two pictures, just be patient. On the second picture, you can see the contours of her small soft hand, holding a strand of hair.

I advise you to draw first with a pen and after that bold the lines with a thinner marker, so everything will be just the way you want. If you make a mistake, you can always erase it.

Now, we`ll take a closer look at her big eyes. Her hair is falling on her face.

The following picture shows an enlarged part of the drawing where the tiny hand holding a stripe of hair is.

The last step is shadowing the girl’s hair, which will make it more authentic and rich. The final picture below is deliberately enlarged so you can see if you have missed something from the previous pictures.

As you can notice, her eyebrows are very distinct and black. As for her hair, the darker shading is on the top of the head, where the split is, and on the hair tails. Do not forget to take a closer look on her neck as she has a collar from the shirt.

Chapter 3- Anime Girl in Action

Many anime characters fight against their opponents because the main topic is always the oldest topic in the world and that is a combat of good and evil. In this chapter you will learn how to draw a young anime girl reaching her hand for something or trying to fight against someone.

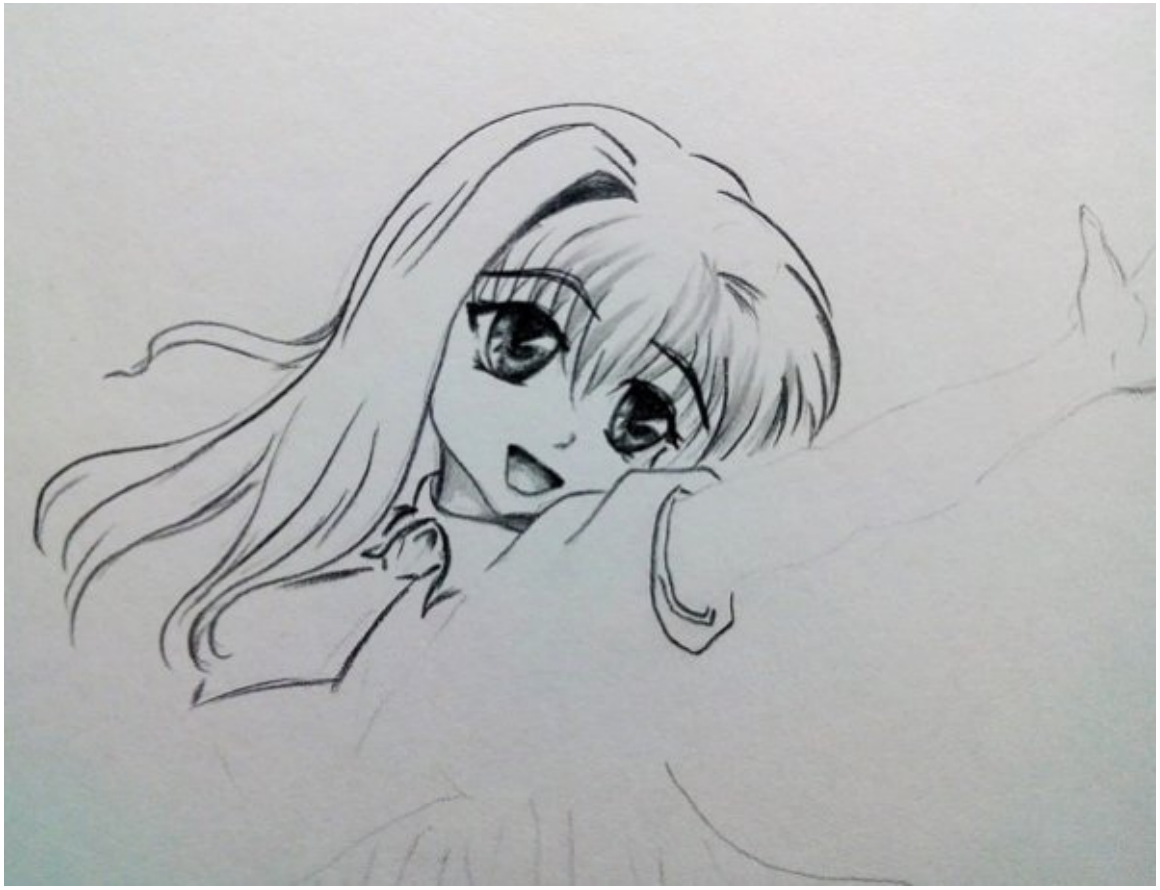
As you can see in the pictures below, you will draw the lines first with a lead pencil and then bold her big eyebrows with a marker. Her mouth is open and the eyes are large as with other manga characters. Just keep your attention on the pictures and you will be able to copy the drawing. Some of the lines are a bit complex, especially regarding the eyes so it demands your full attention.

As you can see in the following picture the girl`s eyes are in the form of an irregular pentagon. You should first work on her eyes as they give an expression to the whole anime character.

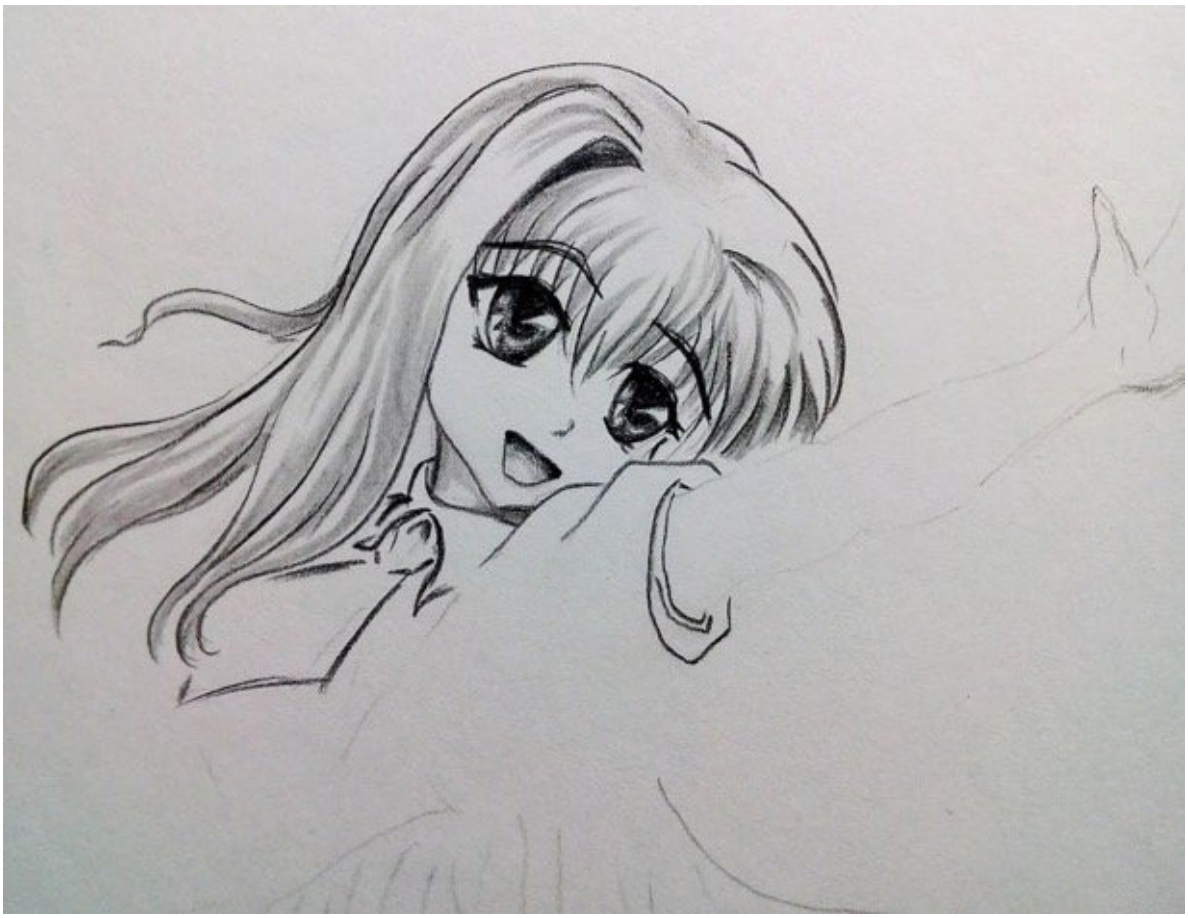
The next thing we will do is to bold the lines of the face, mouth, collar and a sleeve with a thin marker. Please note that the middle of the chin of manga characters is always pointed.

Then, we will just continue to amplify the lines with a marker. As you can see in the following picture our anime girl has a tie and light, long bangs that fall over her eyes. Those are also the general futures of many anime girls.

The second picture below shows an enlarged part of the drawing where the girl`s face is so you could take a closer look. You can also see from the second drawing how to draw the hair.

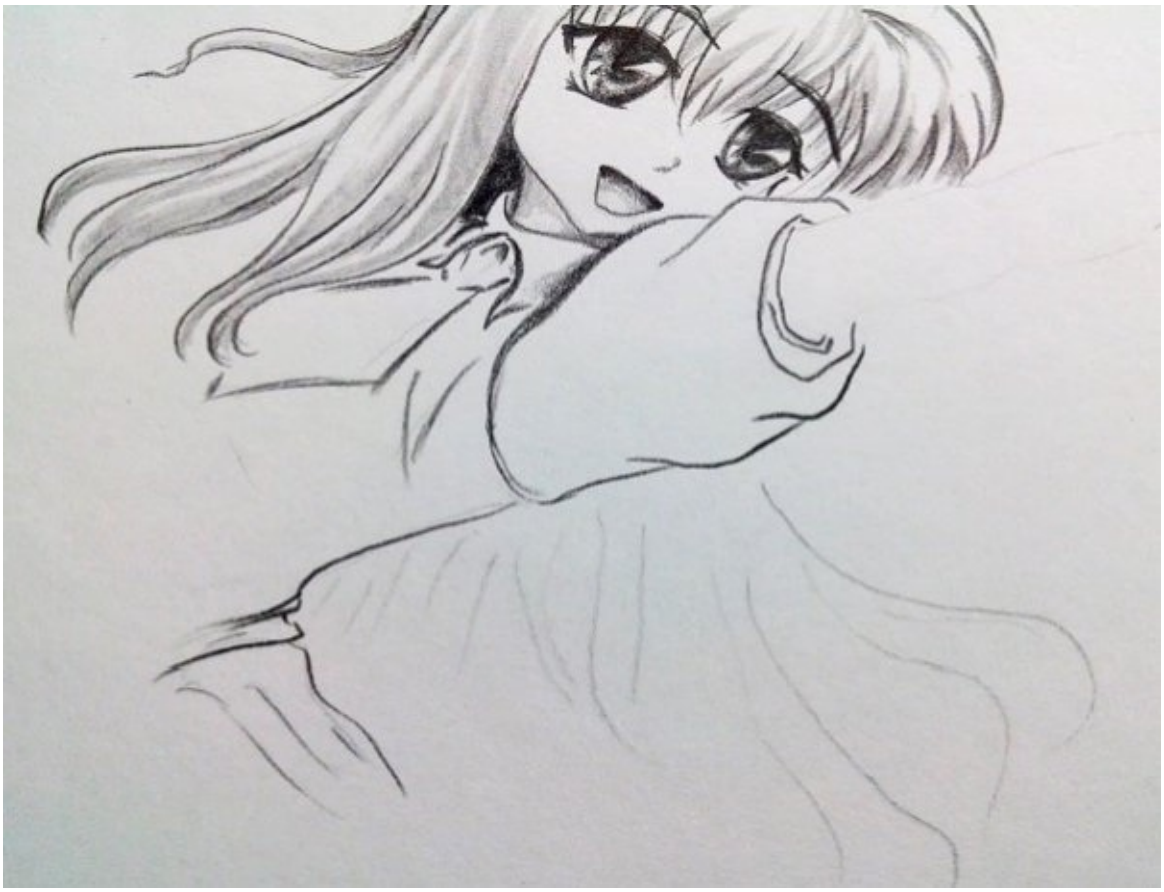


We will now make her hair more distinct by shading it with a pencil as shown in the next picture.



Next, we will point our attention on the girl`s long hair falling down between her arm and a waist. You can see how to draw the sleeve too.

You should now pay attention to shading the upper part of her dress, a tie and the hair. The picture below also points out how you can draw the elbow and the arm.



On the next picture, you can see how to color her long tails of hair, as well as how to draw her little gentle hand. This way of forming a hand is very characteristic for drawing anime girls. Don`t forget the curls on the bottom of her hair.

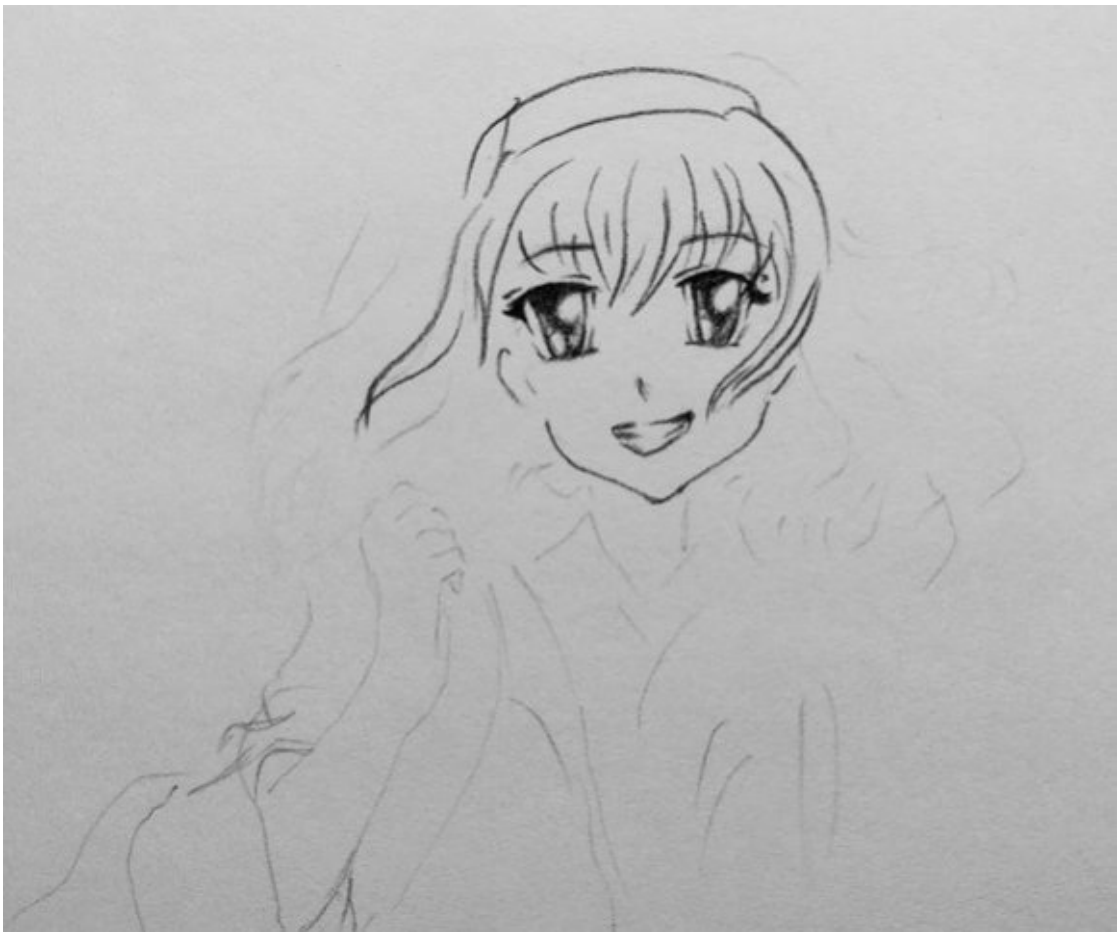
Chapter 4- Anime City Girl

Now we will draw a handsome young woman that I named City Anime Girl as she looks like she`s on her way to see her girlfriends on a lunch. The most of the pictures in this chapter don’t show the whole figure of the anime girl like the first one below.

On some pictures, you will see the upper part of the figure and on others you will see her legs or the lower part. It is important to know this so you would now what size the parts of the figure should be on your drawing. If you are not sure, just scroll down till the last picture to see the whole drawing.

The first picture below shows the beginning of drawing the girl`s head with long abundant hair holding the belt of a purse and on the second one you can see her happy face.

I hope the following picture will show you more clearly how to draw the upper part of the anime girl as the lines are outlined with a black marker.



The next picture is pretty much the same; it only shows you how to shade. As you can see our anime girl has a shirt that is unbuttoned a bit and a jacket. On her head she wears a headband.

The following two pictures illustrate how you will continue drawing a city girl heading towards her legs. On the second one, you can see how to draw her waist and join the upper part of the figure with the legs.

You can also notice how to shade it the right way and all those wrinkles on her clothes.

Let`s now move on to her legs and pants. The next two pictures show you how to handle with these. As you can see, these pants are not tight, just an ordinary jeans with the stripe.

You do not have to bother much about her shoes as they are rather in a very simple form, nothing fancy.

So, your city anime girl should like the one below if you managed to assemble the top and the bottom part of the figure.

Chapter 5- Anime Princess

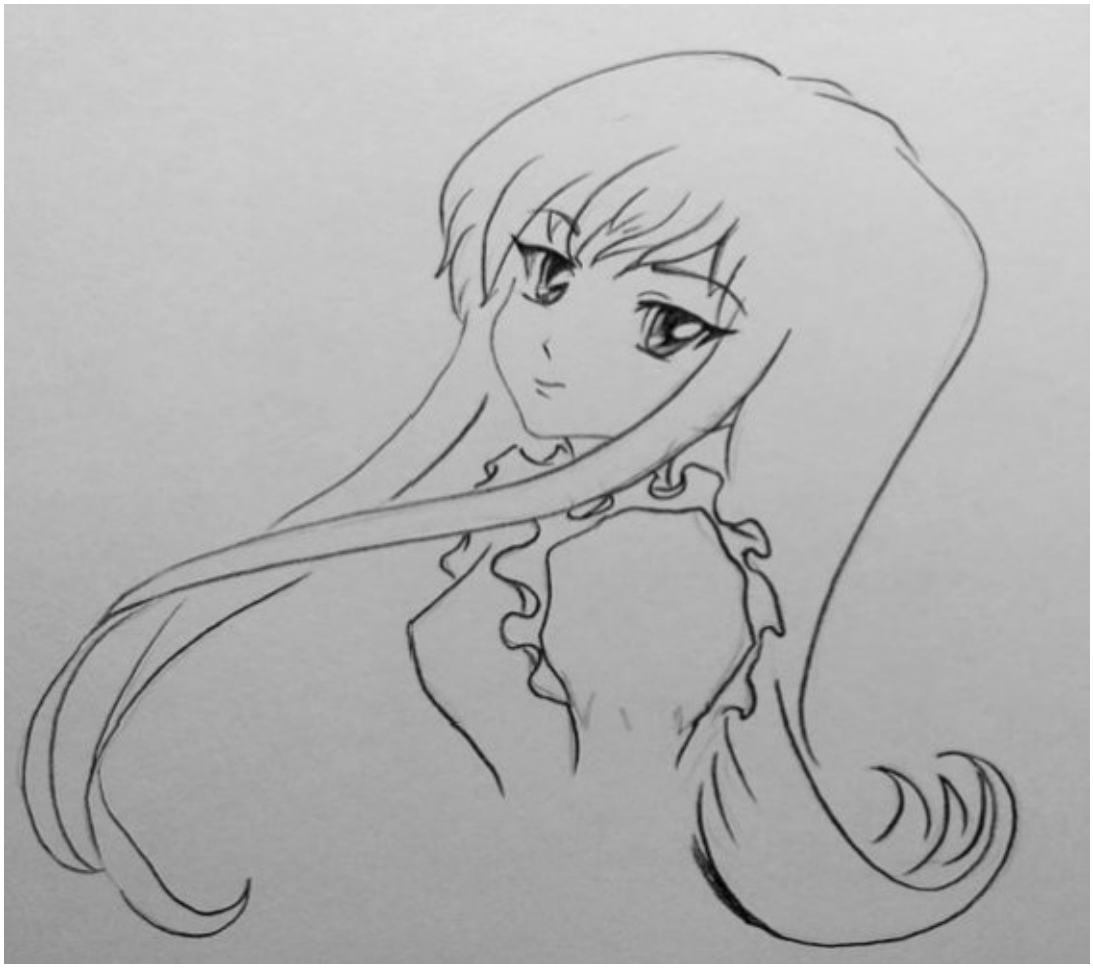
Anime princess is very easy to draw and the young woman in the pictures is very cute and resembles an innocent princess which is in love and thinking about her love.

As usual, we will start by drawing her head with an ordinary pencil as it is the part of a body of anime characters that is most distinguished. We will draw her profile and her beautiful long hair.

In the picture below you can take a better look at the contours of a girl as they were thickened with a thin black marker. Notice how the two tails of her hair in front are crossed and hair in the back is curled at the bottom as she went to a hairdresser.

Also, she is wearing a dress with short sleeves that have unusual big ruffles. Breasts in the majority of female anime characters are drawn as slightly bulge, with no erotic connotations. That will not be too hard to draw.

In the second picture below you can take a closer look on her face from the profile. She doesn`t have that long bands like the other anime girls in the book, but they are irregularly cut and give the impression of wildness and freedom.



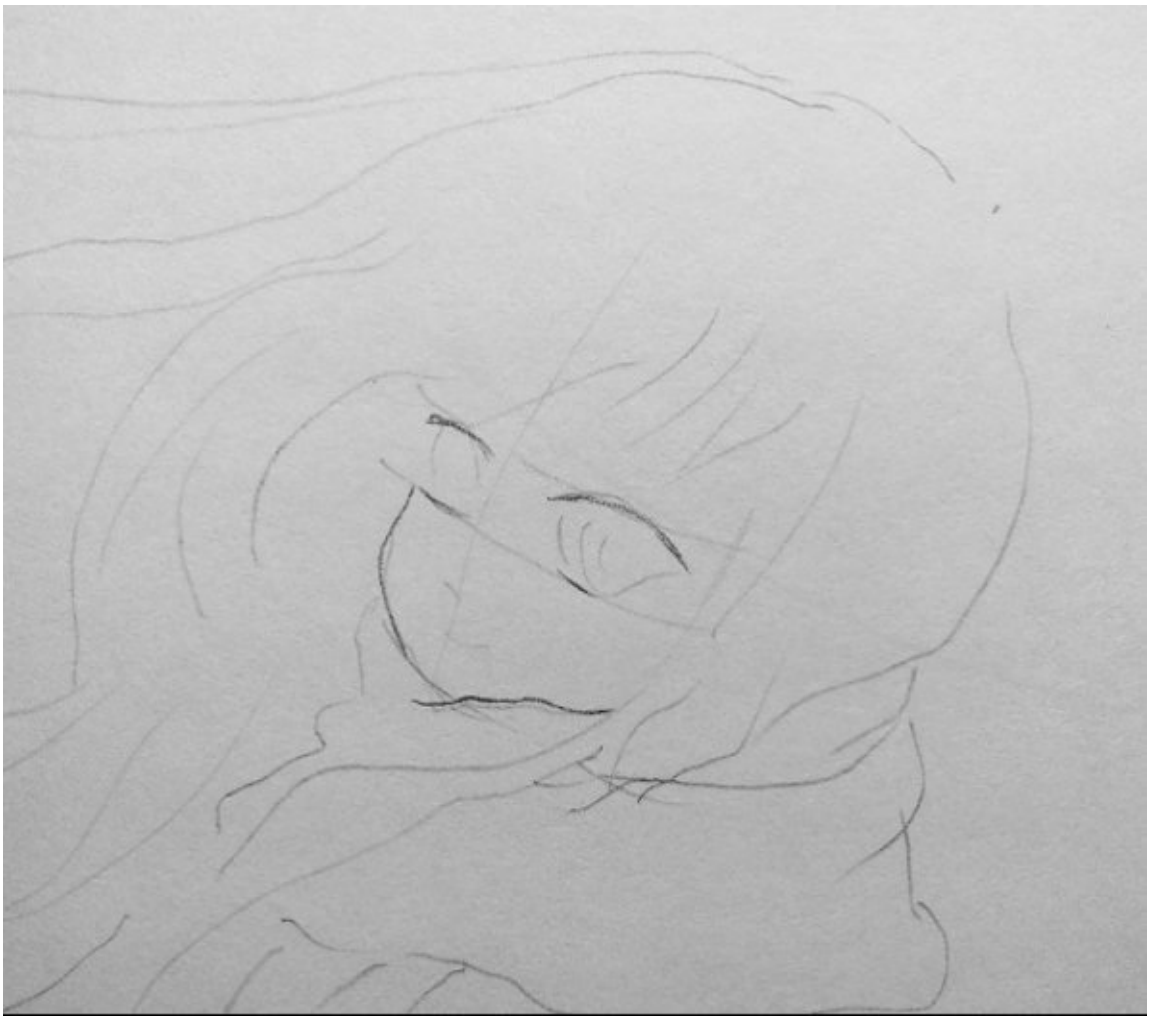
All there is left for you to do is to shade her hair and the part of the dress that could be seen in the picture and the anime princess is finished. Now, you can color her hair and a dress with some engaging colors. You can do the same with other drawings too, just pick the colors and paint.

Chapter 6- Winter Anime Girl

Next, we will draw a cute anime girl in a winter jacket offering her hand wearing a thick glove. Let`s begin as usual from the head and the face. Look at the last picture in the chapter to see the proportion of the figure on the drawing as you can`t realize it by looking at first pictures.

As you can see our winter girl has a big warm scarf and earmuffs which makes her even more charming along with her large warm eyes. Her eyebrows are a bit down like the good people have.

The glow in anime character`s eyes is actually a blank space in an unexpected part of the eye as you can see if you take a closer look on the second picture below.

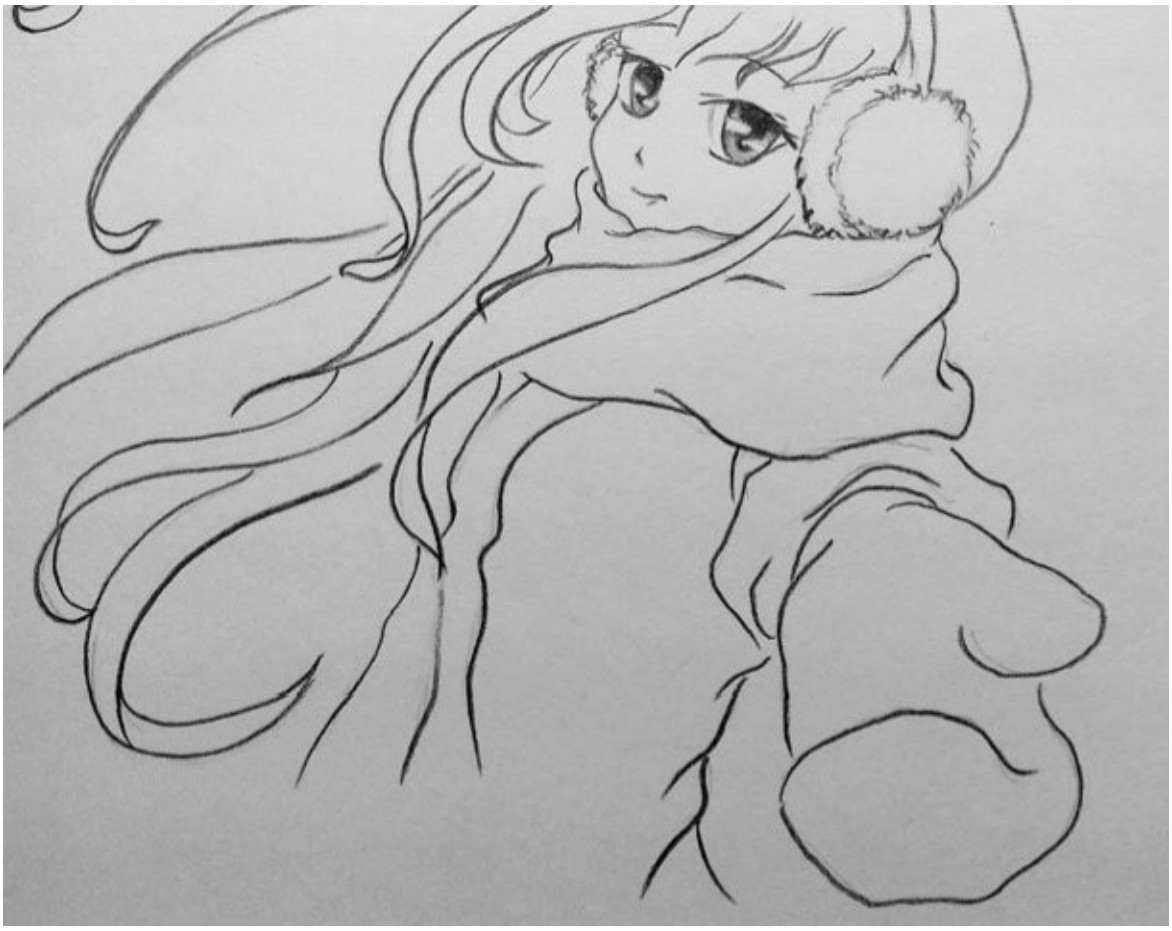


In the next picture, you can see what you should draw by now as the lines are thickened with a marker. This is just a part of the anime winter girl meaning you cannot see her offered hand. Just follow the lines and make this beautiful drawing, the shading is just to come.

The next image is deliberately magnified to make it easier for you to draw all these jagged lines representing long hair and winter clothes of an anime girl. As you can see there are many intertwined lines so be aware of it.

The following picture shows the same part of the drawing, but you can see how to start shading the bangs and the earmuff. Her nose is just a tiny spot and her lips are just a little line.

We will now move on to the rest of the drawing where the hand is in a big glove. It is not that hard to draw the glove as it doesn`t have any fingers, but you should pay attention on the wrinkles. Pay attention where the glove begins.



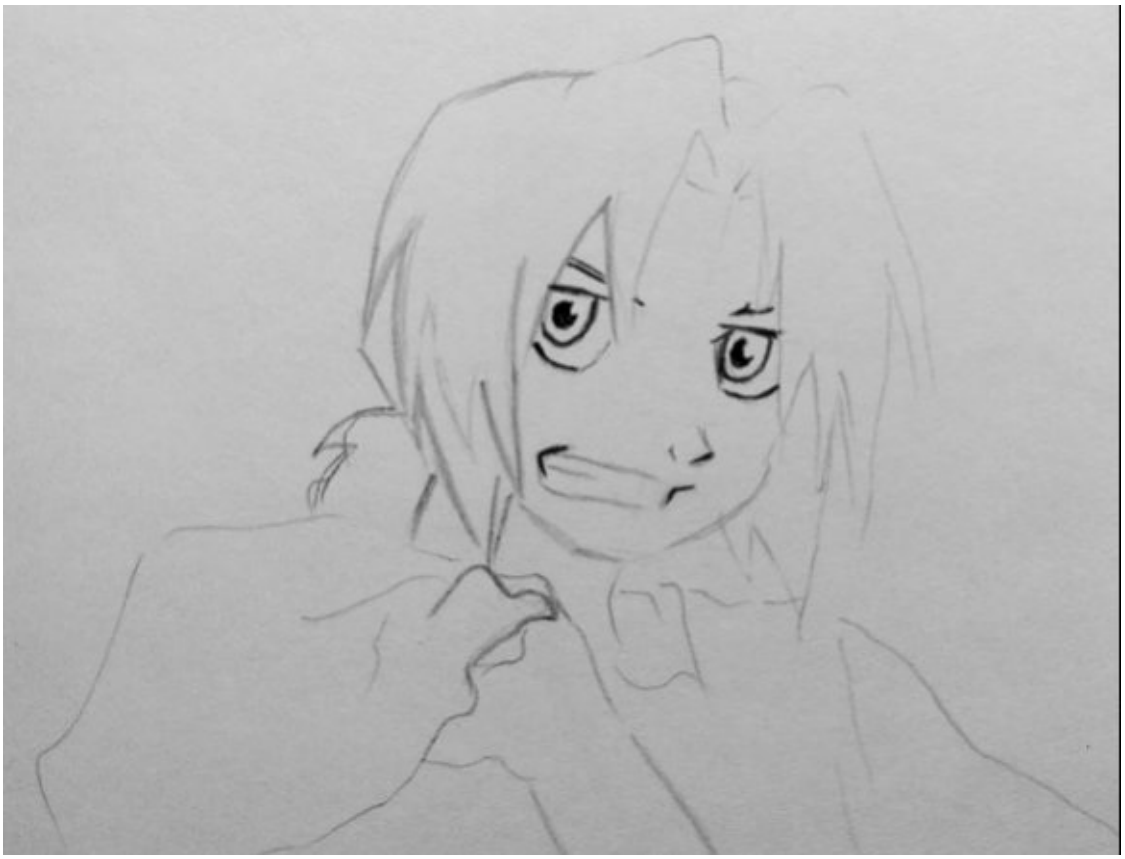
The following two pictures will show you how to shade the glove, the coat and her beautiful long hair on the winter wind. First, shade a big glove and a part of a winter coat. The glove is big, of course, because it is closer to our look. As you can see, the scarf is a bit lighter so one can discern it from the rest of the winter clothes.

Next and the final step is coloring her hair with a lead pencil, so now you can concentrate on that by watching the picture below. Isn`t she cute?

As I said before you don`t have to finish your anime drawings in black and white. You can always color it with any color you wish. I already see the winter anime girl in a light blue coat and a yellow glove. My winter girl is a blonde, and yours?

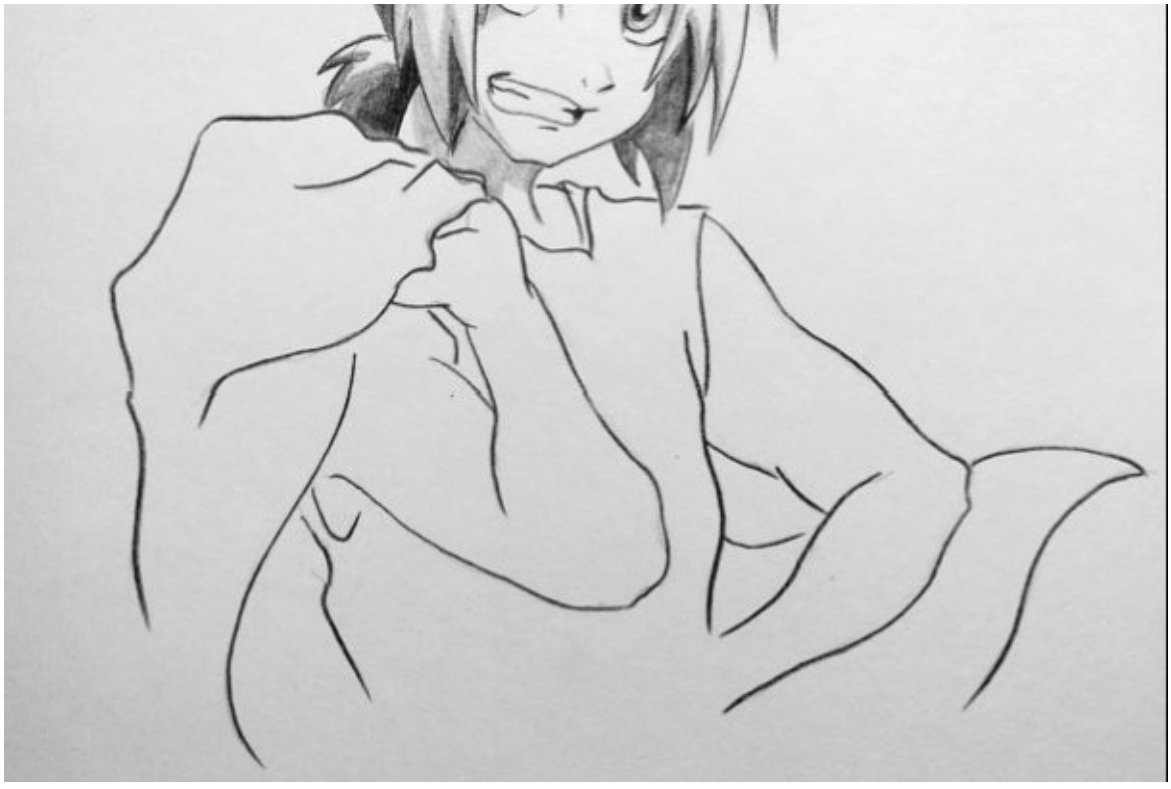
Chapter 7- Angry Anime Guy

Finally, for those who would like to learn how to draw a young anime guy, I have prepared an angry, but not mean, anime guy wearing a jacket on his shoulder. Let`s start with his strange hair characteristic for anime guys. Different picture show various parts of the drawing like in some previous chapters.



In the next picture, you can see how you should draw his angry mouth. Also, if you pay attention you could see that he has a small ponytail. The edges of his hear are very sharp, but the chin is not pointed like with an anime girls. Do not forget the small line that divides his teeth.

Now, you can draw the rest of the figure by looking at the pictures below. In the first one, you can notice he is wearing an athletic shirt and he threw his jacket over his shoulder like a really cool guy. It is not that hard to draw his jacket as we can only assume it is a jacket by the contours of the drawing.



In the following picture you can see how to start shading his jacket. Also, you can see the outlines on his arm that will divide the blank parts from the shaded ones on his arm. It is much easier to shade if you outline the object of shading first.

Next picture shows how to continue shading his jacket, meaning you are going to shade the inside and the inside is always darker so press the pen harder. Also, you should shade his arm as shown below.

Now, we will finish the shading of his jacket right on the drawing and his left arm.

As you could see in the above pictures, his hear is already shaded and to see how look at the following pictures.

So, our “anime prince” is finished. Now you can paint his hair in black or his athletic shirt.

Conclusion

I hope the book “How to Draw Anime: Practical Guide for Beginners ” fulfilled your expectations indicated in the description of the book and the introduction. What I mean I truly hope you have learned something about anime movies and characters from the first chapter as well as how to draw some of them presented in the book.

As it was stated in the book description the main characteristic and the best part of the book should supposed to be explanatory pictures. I hope you have enjoyed in those pictures that show you how to draw manga characters step by step.

MANGA Drawing

How to Draw Manga for Beginners

Yuka Hiramatsu

Manga Drawing:

How to Draw Manga for Beginners

By Yuka Hiramatsu

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Introduction

It seems easy to draw cartoons from any genre, but it requires significant effort to draw them again and again with different gestures. You need to be persistent with your drawing. Moreover, you have to study each and every move of your cartoon and depict them in every panel perfectly.

However, this perfection can be achieved with perseverance. In **How to Draw Manga for Beginners,** you will find an elaborate and comprehensive description of Manga characters. In section 1, you will also find the distinct facial traits which make Manga creatures stand apart in the world of cartoons. In second section, you will find tutorials to draw female Manga characters.

Sometimes, you may not feel like you want to draw anything. At such times, you need to motivate yourself by different means. You can try different methods which help you get over the boredom and make you lift pen and paper.

Notice some things around you which you see daily but just don't notice their presence. Open your eyes and think out of the box. There will be certainly many things which you habitually ignore. For example, the caricature drawn on your pillow cover can be recreated. Give it Manga features. Help yourself like this by laying your hands on anything and try to recreate it.

You can also take a break from Manga drawings if you have been drawing a lot of it. Draw something else with someone younger or older than you. Try to think from their perspective. They might teach you something completely unexpected. You will also grow a lot as an individual and as an artist.

There might be some incidences when you are out for a meeting with a friend or someone else. Utilize this time to check the surroundings and put them on your sketch book. Don't touch the magazines and just take out your sketchbook. There might be some people around you, who can become an inspiration for you to create Manga creatures.

One more very interesting thing is to personify your inner inhibitions. Whatever stops you from drawing, give it a form. You can give it the shape of a monster, a pig or even an ant. But, keep your motive of learning Manga in mind. Once you create the drawing you wanted, give them a Manga look.

You can also call up your friends who would like to hold drawing sessions with you. Artists often get tremendous inspiration in the company of other like-minded artists. Even if there are people, who have a different mindset, they might give you some life-changing ideas that you never tried before.

The main idea behind using all these techniques is to keep you occupied with drawing Manga. Learning a new art form requires keeping it in mind throughout the day. Once you learn to deliberately transform everything into Manga, you will notice that you don’t need any conscious effort to do it. You will be able to do it automatically after a few days.

Section 1 - What is Manga?

You might have heard this term- Manga, in context of Japan. Manga is a series of comics in Japan, the style of which was developed in the late 19th century. This printed medium of cartoon series is meant for children as well as adults. The cartoons have a complex and elaborate pre-history in the Japanese art forms.

The term Manga literally refers to cartooning plus comics. Therefore, you can call a comic book as Manga and also refer to cartoon characters as Manga characters. When we use this term outside of Japan, we mean that the comics were either published in Japan or it consists of Japanese characters.

It is common to see people of all age groups in Japan reading Manga. They are published in various genres such as:

- action-adventure
- comedy
- business/commerce
- detective
- historical drama
- mystery
- romance
- horror
- science fiction and fantasy
- sexuality
- suspense
- sports and games

Originally, this art form was founded in Japan, but it has become popular world over and the comics are now published in various other languages. Manga has noteworthy

international audience round the world.

You will typically find Manga comics in black and white, although a few series are published in color also. In Japan, large Manga magazines are published containing series of Manga characters. If the series of Manga episodes become successful, volumes are later published consisting of all series in one. A Manga artist is called Manga-ka in Japan, who gets his work edited by a creative editor of a commercial publishing agency. Some of the popular Manga series are even animated into cartoon series for TV.

Osamu Tezuka is known as the father of modern Manga. He was inspired from Max Fleisher and Disney, but he maintained the distinct Japanese features of cartoon art in Manga, such as stylized features and simple lines. We can say that he was also influenced with Chinese art.

How is Manga different from other cartoons?

In other magazines of the world, it is prominently noticeable that the cartoon characters have a fictitious life. They are nowhere concerned with reality and just enjoy their world of fantasy. But, Manga characters are deeply rooted in day to day life. You will often see people working in offices, mothers working at home, children doing their homework, and even death scenes. The work principles are omnipresent throughout the background of Manga life. In addition, you will notice that technology is shown in Manga life, which is particularly absent in other cartoons. Apart from Manga and anime, other cartoons aim at simplifying the life of their characters, with minimum inclusion of science and social norms.

Manga characters are easily recognizable even if you put them in the swarm of American or Asian cartoons. This does not mean that the style of Manga characters is limited. Each Manga-ka artist has his own technique to work.

The role of a Manga-Ka

Manga characters are the result of the artist's vision, although the creative editors sometimes play the role of directors. Manga comics are more like novels, detailed and complete worlds of people, who develop and grow with time. The writers make sure that they maintain the suspense and you are compelled to read the next issue.

Features of Manga Characters

Manga art form of Japan has developed its own iconography or visual language to express feelings and other internal state of mind. Manga has a typically recognizable style of depicting its characters. Line is highlighted more than the form of characters, the placement of panels and storytelling is also very different from American cartoons. The panels are read from right to left, which falls in line with the Japanese writing. Let us take a look at the facial features of Manga cartoons:

Eyes

The shape and size of the eyes is completely changed. Doe-eyes and love heart are a sign of infatuation, stars mean that the cartoon is fascinated by celebrities, spirals are used to indicate dizziness or confusion, wide bare circles or flames indicate the at the character is very angry, an "X" is used to indicate a stunned, dead or unconscious character, two '<' are used facing opposite to each other to specify excitement or nervousness and eyes without pupil show a state of hallucination.

Different shapes and sizes of eyes are used to signify particular characteristics of the Manga characters. The eyes of Manga are always shadowed when they are emotionally hurt, whether there is sufficient light in the room or not.

Mouth

Usually, only a single line is used to depict mouth. Mouths are typically small in Manga. A fang is depicted in the mouth's corner to indicate mischief. A cat's mouth accompanied by bigger eyes may also be used to indicate feistiness or mischief.

Nose

An L-shaped line is used to depict the location of a nose. When a female face is completely facing forward, the nose can be completely eliminated. A bleeding nose may be shown to depict sexual excitation when exposed to a stimulating imagery. This comes from the *old wives' tale* of Japan. A sleeping person may be indicted by drawing a bubble hanging from one nostril. It is called a snot bubble.

Face and head

Cruciform bursting veins on top of the left eye and a large drop of sweat over the right eye are a frequent visual contention. The sweat drops are also shown on the hair of characters standing with their backs turned on you. These features are used to indicate exasperation, embarrassment, shock and confusion. Though in normal conditions, these emotions may not induce sweat.

Cross popping veins indicate irritation or anger. Some Manga characters also use smoke puffs to indicate anger. They do not have vein signs.

Hatching or red cheeks represent blushing from romantic feelings. Sometimes, oval dots in pink or red may also depict rosy cheeks. This should not be confused with scribbles on the cheeks, indicating injury.

Shape of the face is changed depending on the mood of the character. It may even look like an apple or a carrot. Vertical parallel lines accompanied by dark shading under the eye or over the head may depict fatigue, mortification, or horror. Wavy lines may indicate disgust. Puffed cheeks are used to indicate a frustrated or mortified female.

Hair color

Color of the hair is not selected randomly. They are used to signify certain characteristics of Manga cartoons:

- **Black:** Power, emptiness, evil, sadness, sophistication, mystery, death, completeness

- **White:** Purity, peace, simplicity, humility, heaven (which may even mean death), cold

- **Blue:** Peace, stability, calm, cold, dependability. While signifying dependability, dark blue signifies more responsibility than light blue.

- **Red:** Passion, energy, joy, aggression, love (strong emotions)

- **Purple:** Royalty, spirituality, wisdom.

- **Pink:** Femininity, purity, childlike, love.

- **Blond**(e): Wealth, kindness, heaven, courage, childlike

- **Orange:** Energy, seeking attention, balance, warmth, enthusiasm.

- **Green:** Fortune (bad and good), envy, life, harmony, vigor, tranquility

- **Brown:** Comfort, endurance, simplicity,

- **Silver/Gray:** Intelligence, reliability, maturity, boredom, sadness

Section 2 - How to draw Manga characters?

Chapter 1 - How to Draw Sally?

Sally is a young and happy cheer-girl, with props in her hand. She wears short skirts and takes good care of her hairs. Let us see how you can draw Sally;

Step 1:

Keeping facial measurements in mind draw the outline for Sally’s eyes, mouth, and hair. Use light pencil to draw this draft. You may have to erase the lines of measurements later.

Step 2:

Darken the lines which you have finalized for the eyes and mouth. The eyes are depicted wider than normal, which is a typical feature of Manga characters.

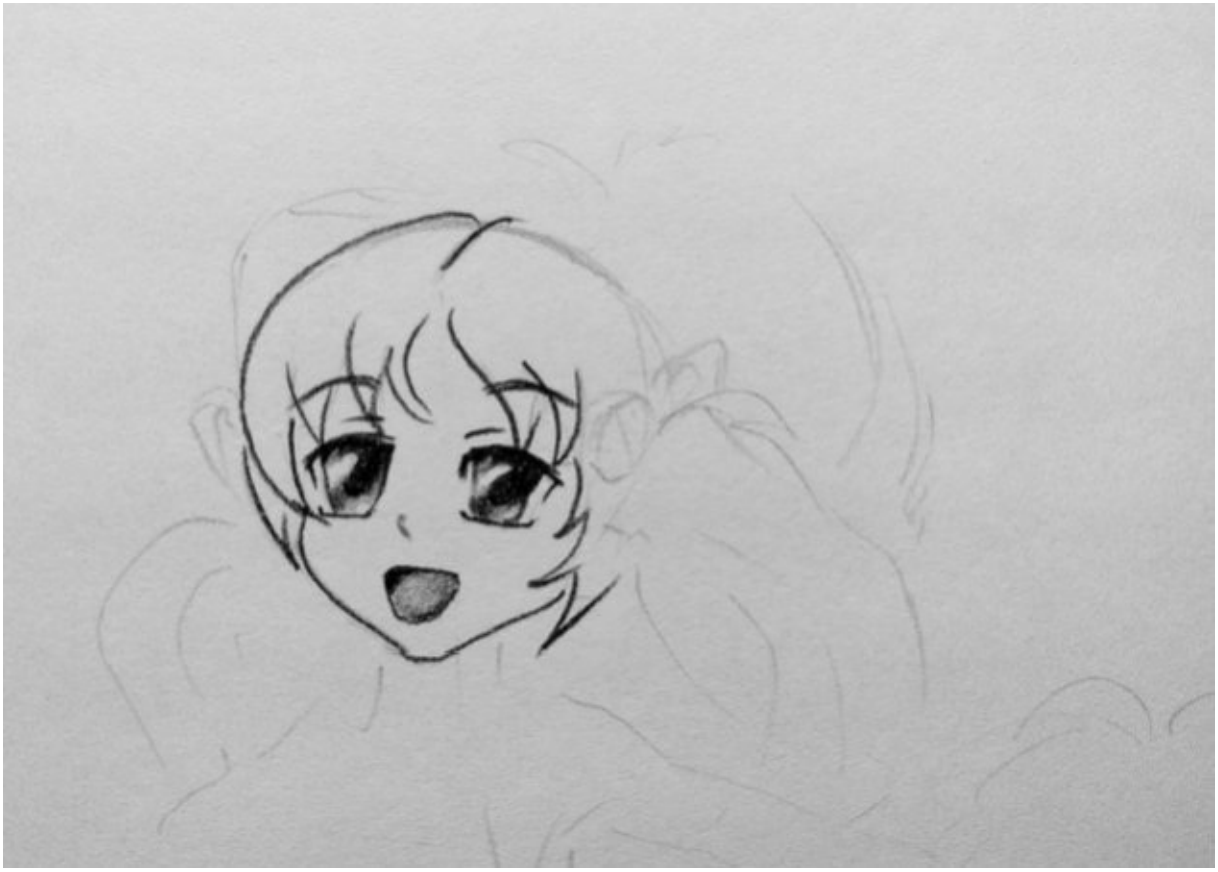
Step 3:

Give shading in the eyes and mouth. Darken the pupil in the eyes and use very light shading to depict reflection in the white portion. The mouth is shown open to depict smile or a cheerful laughter.

Step 4:

Draw the hair of Sally. The hairs are falling on the face and eyes. The hairs might cover a portion of eyes and eyebrows, but we drew the eyes in full earlier so that they are depicted properly. If we draw them partially, we may end up making some mistakes.

The nose is depicted by just a small L-shaped line.



Step 5:

Draw the outline of the body, hairs and clothing of Sally. The hairs are shown with a good bounce. Take care to draw them like that.

The props in her hand resemble her hairs. The legs are slender and drawn crossed to each other as if the Manga character is dancing to cheer up someone.

The navel is also shown by just a small arc.

Step 6:

Give shading in some parts of the hairs, clothing and body. Color the props as well.

You can give depth in the clothing by giving darker shading under the shirt and skirt as shown in the picture to indicate shadow.

You don’t have to give much emphasis on the feet or hands. The facial features of Manga characters are given more importance than any other thing.

The Manga character, Sally, is complete.

Chapter 2 - How to Draw Sakura?

Sakura is a school going girl, who is shown here worried about something. We will lay emphasis on her hair, face and dressing in this illustration.

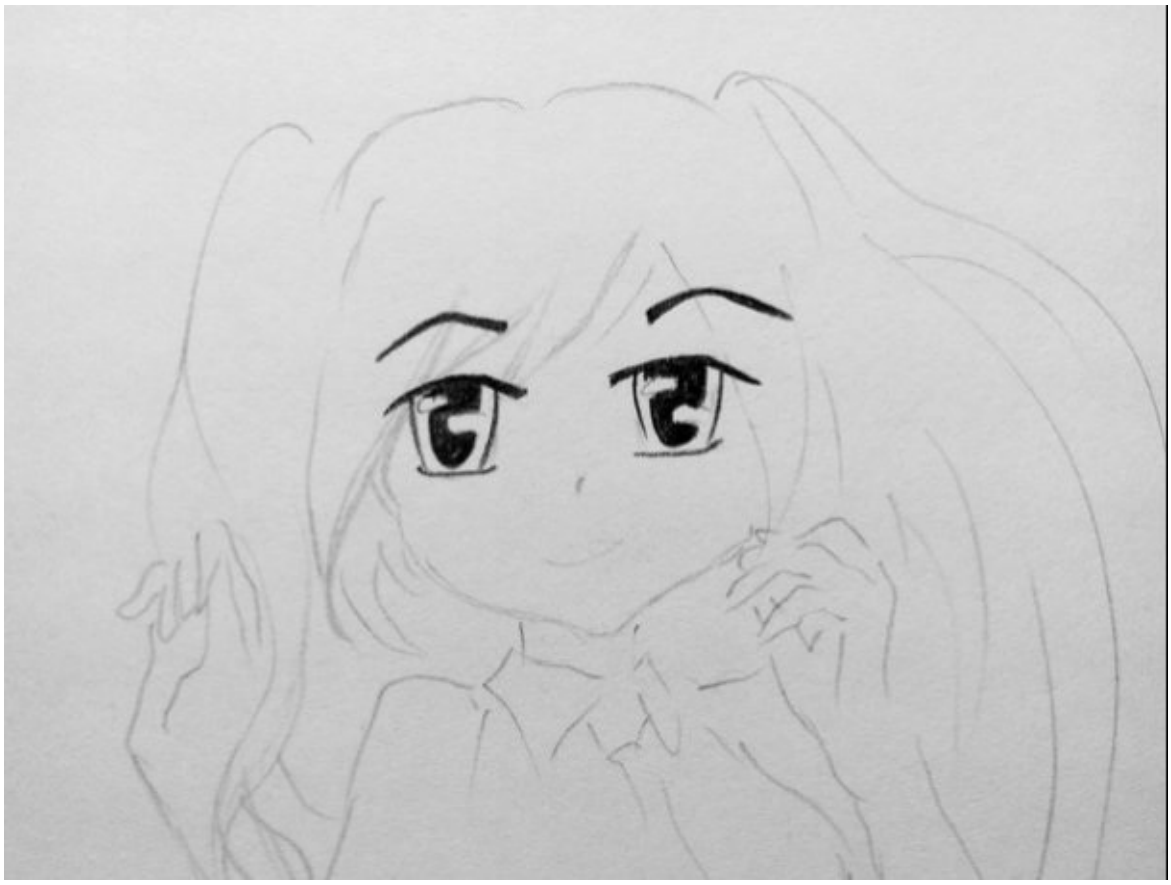
Step 1:

Draw a rough draft for Sakura’s face, hair and dress. Use measurements to draw facial features of Sakura. She is wearing a tie on her shirt. Thus, draw the tie and the collars underneath carefully.

Step 2:

Draw final eyes of this Manga character. The pupils are larger and cover most of the area of eyes. The reflection in the eyes is shown with the help of very light shading, by leaving the space blank or by using a patch of white poster color.

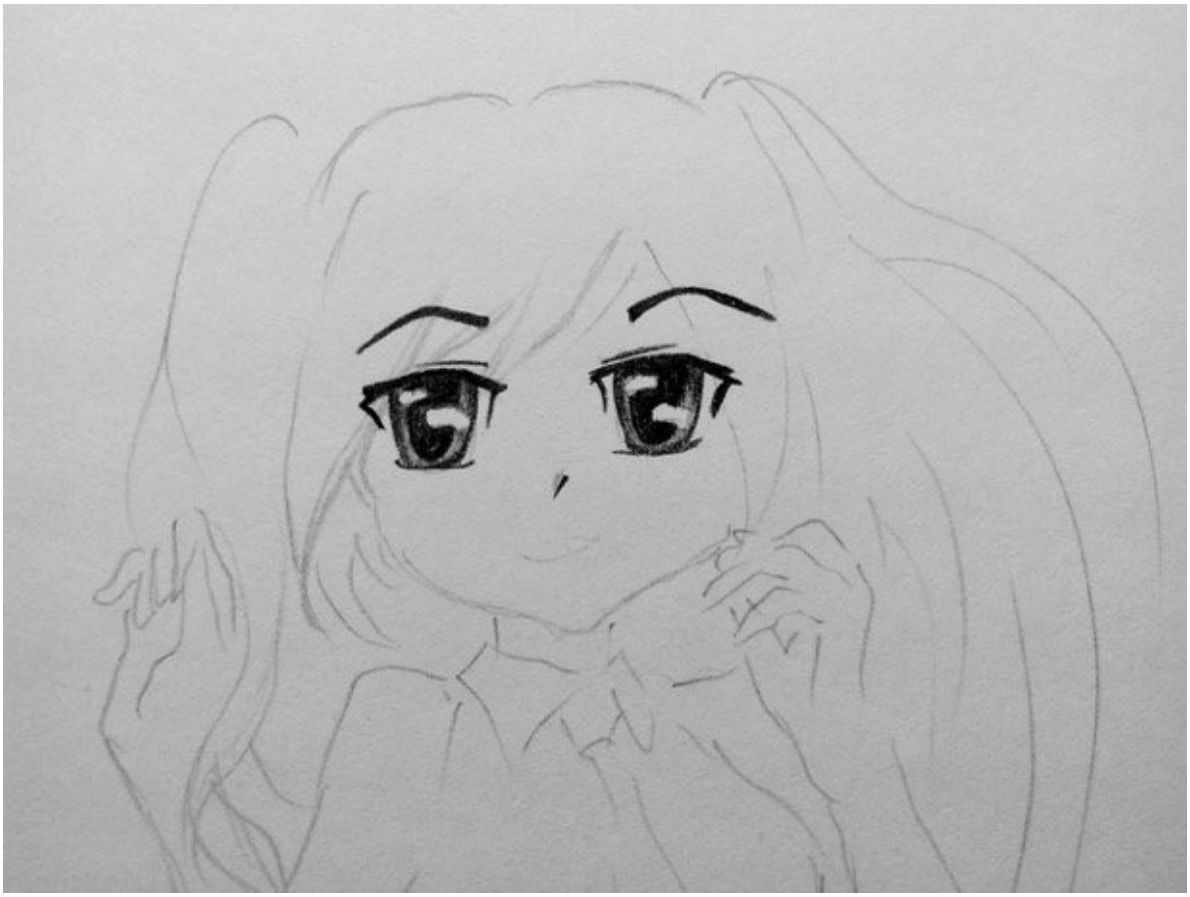
Draw the eyebrows as well.



Step 3:

Complete the shading in the eyes as shown in the picture. Draw a small line for nose.

Complete the drawing for the hair, clothing and hands too.

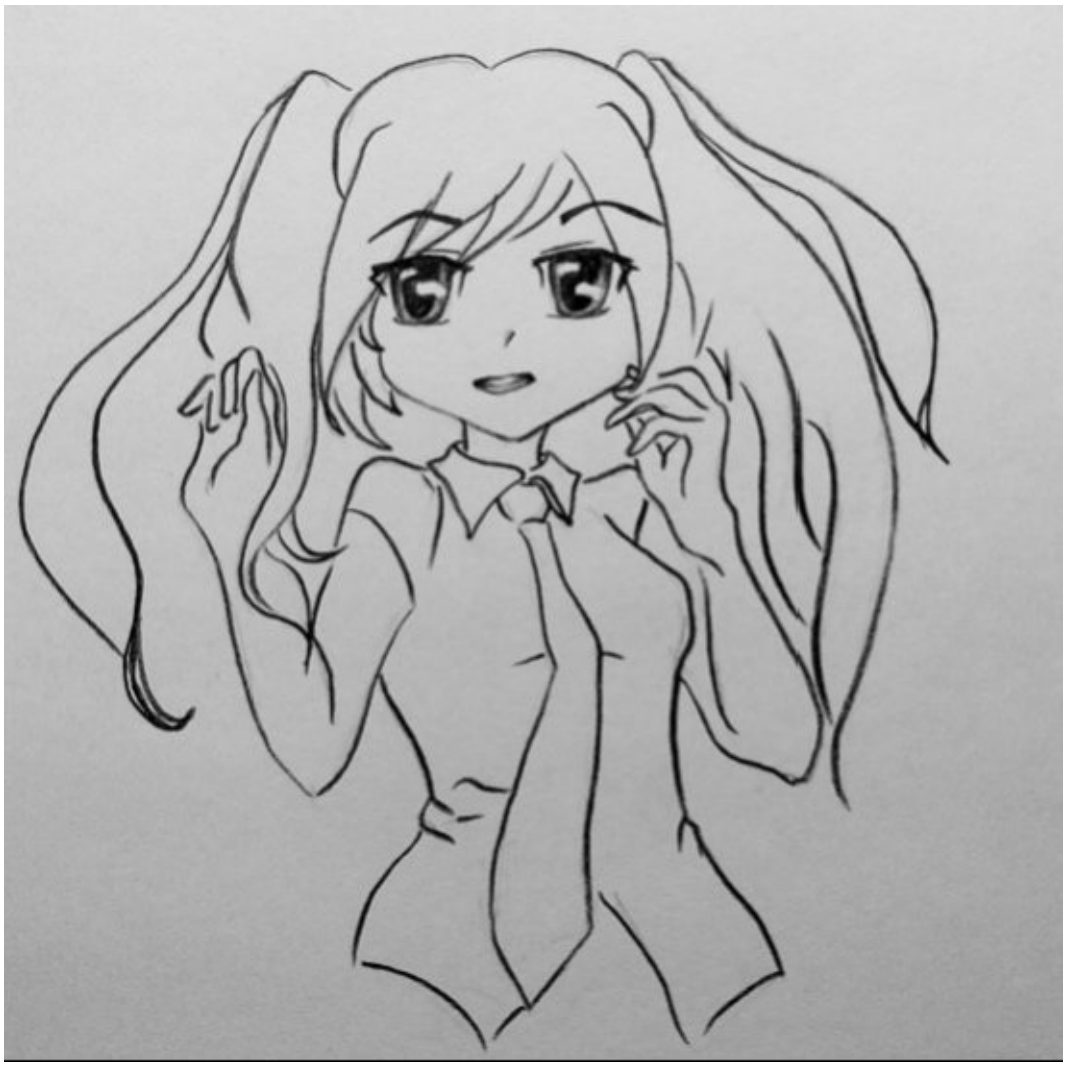


Step 4:

Darken the outline for the complete character including her hair, clothes, eyes, and body.

Take care to draw the body underneath the clothing in a slender manner. The hands are also shown in a delicate way.

The expressions of the girl are shown such that she looks surprised over something.



Step 5:

Give shading in the hairs and clothing. The folds of the shirt are nicely depicted with shading. Use shading to show shadows wherever necessary.

The thickness of the lines is also used to emphasize various parts of the body and hairs.

The Manga character, Sakura, is complete.

Chapter 3 - How to Draw Kenji?

Kenji is a delicate young girl. She is shown here expressing delight over something. The expressions are clearly visible through her eyes and mouth. She has very elaborate hairs and the clothing is also subtle according to her age.

Step 1:

Using appropriate measurements draw the eyes and mouth of Kenji. Draw a rough outline for her hairs, hands and clothing. Her hands are placed behind her hair.

Step 2:

Give a final outline to the eyes, nose and mouth. Draw the outline for the eyebrows as well.

Step 3:

Give shading in the eyes of Kenji. Depict reflection in the eyes with the help of very light shading. Though the eyes are very dark here, the pupils are even darker than the rest of the eyes.

The outline for the eyes is also very thick but soft. The lines are not sharp anywhere.

Draw the lips and nose. Give shading in the eyebrows.

Draw the jaw line with a soft pencil.

Step 4:

Draw the head and hair of Kenji. The hairs are falling on the forehead and eyes. Draw the outline for clothes. Kenji is wearing a shirt and a bow tie.

Step 5:

Complete the outline for her hairs and clothing. She has some ribbons tied on her hairs. The hairs are shown very fluffy and elaborate. Thus, you must use freely flowing lines to draw them.

The hands are not completely visible being positioned on the back of her head.

Step 6:

Give light shading in the required areas. Use dark colors to show depth only in some areas because the eyes have been darkened to lay maximum emphasis on them. You can adjust thickness of lines to indicate differences in some areas.

The Manga character, Kenji, is complete.

Chapter 4 - How to Draw Nanoha?

Nanoha is a small girl, who is shown gloomy over something. As we have told you in section 1 of this book, facial features, hairs, shape of the face, etc. are used to depict expressions in Manga characters.

Since Nanoha is sad over something; her eyes are not very large, her hairs are subtle, and the face is also very small.

Step 1:

Using appropriate measurements draw the eyes and other facial features of Nanoha. The eyes are, no doubt, large enough; but they are not very shiny as we depicted in the earlier illustrations. Draw a rough sketch of her hairs, and neck.

We will also depict a necklace later.

Step 2:

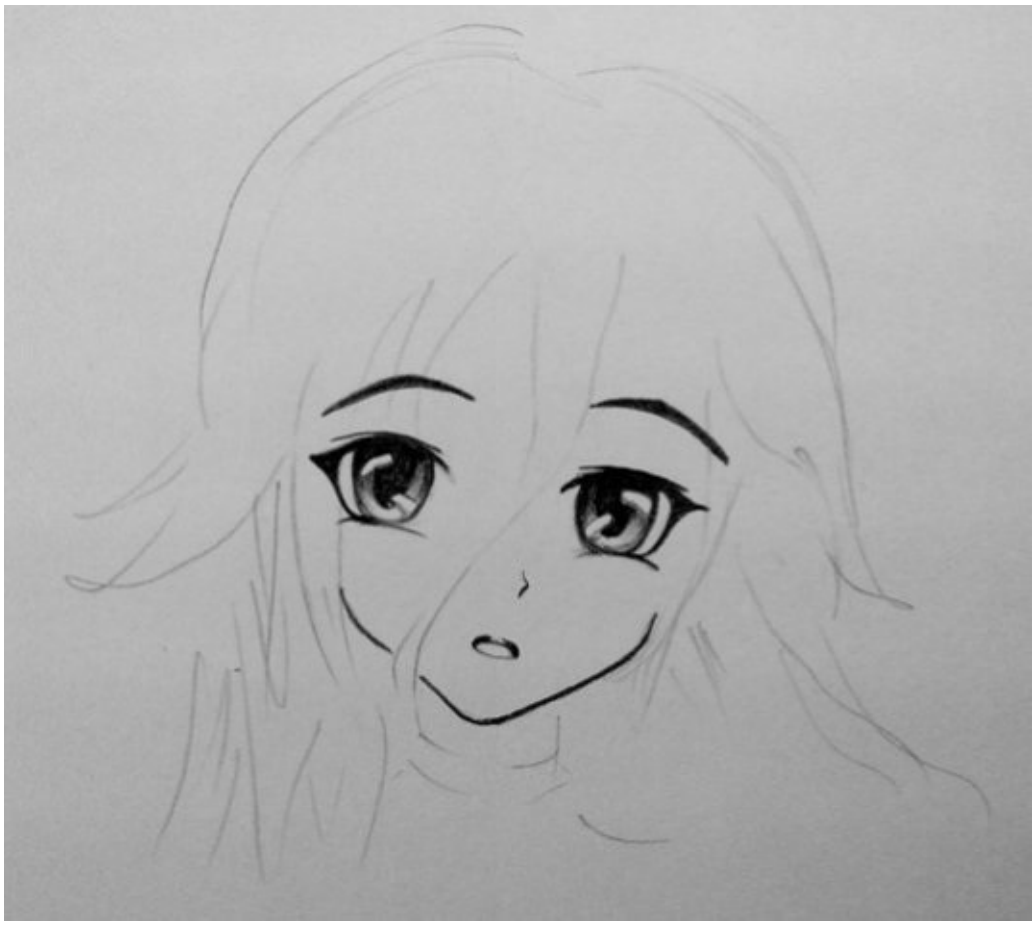
Draw a final delineation of her eyes, nose and mouth. Draw thick eyebrows over her eyes. Draw a narrow jaw line.

Step 3:

Give shading in the eyes of Nanoha, keeping the reflection at its minimum. The corners of her eyes are stretched a little outwards. The pupils are darker than the rest of the area of eyes. There are two reflective areas in each eye, but both of them are smaller.

The arcs below the eyes are also shown to depict the sadness in her eyes.

Draw a small mouth, which is open in shock and speechlessness. No teeth are shown.



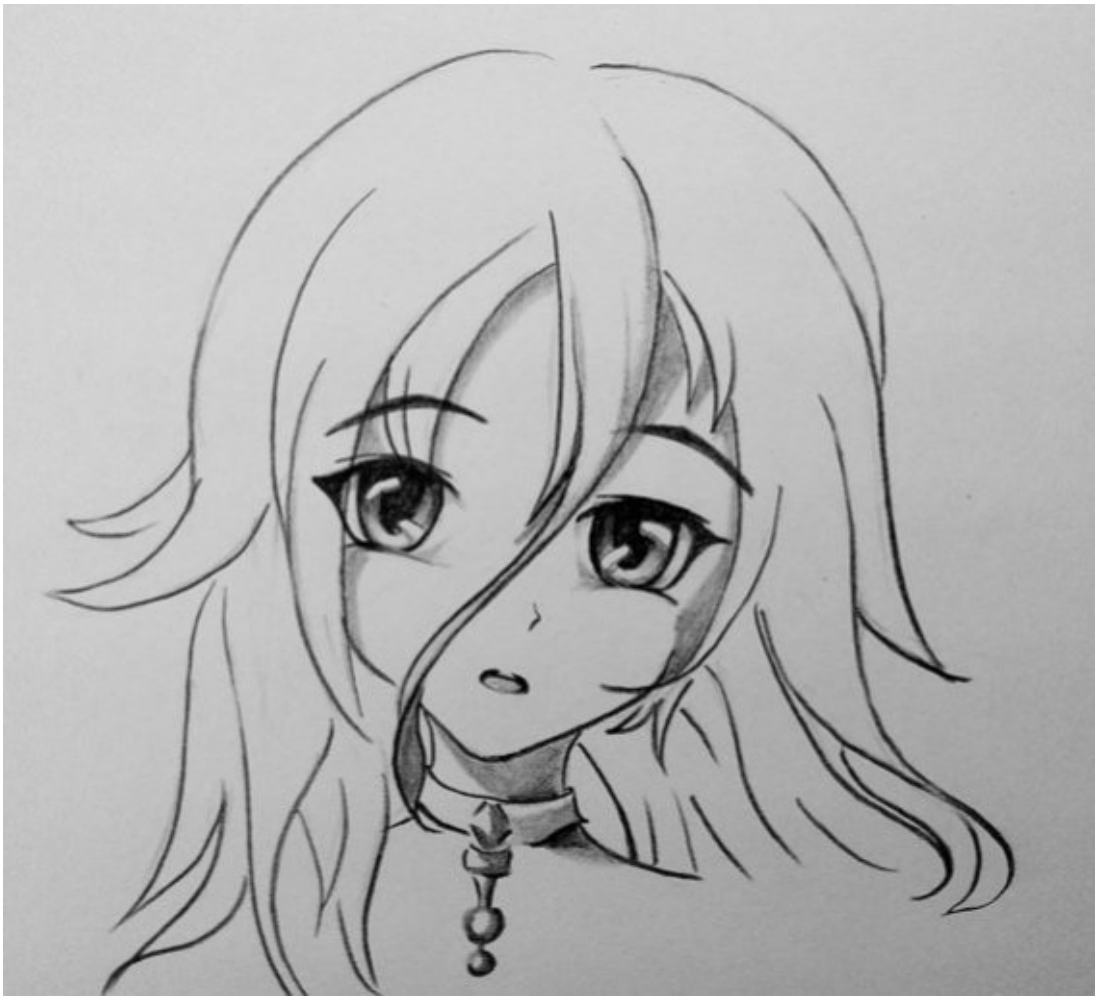
Step 4:

Draw final outline for her hairs. A strand of hair is falling over her face, literally going beyond her jaw line. The remaining hairs are subtle and not very fluffy. They are falling straight down the length of her face.

Draw a necklace on her neck. The pendant is a little elongated with three to four beads.

Step 5:

Give shading in her face, neck and necklace. The shading should be lighter than that of the eyes.

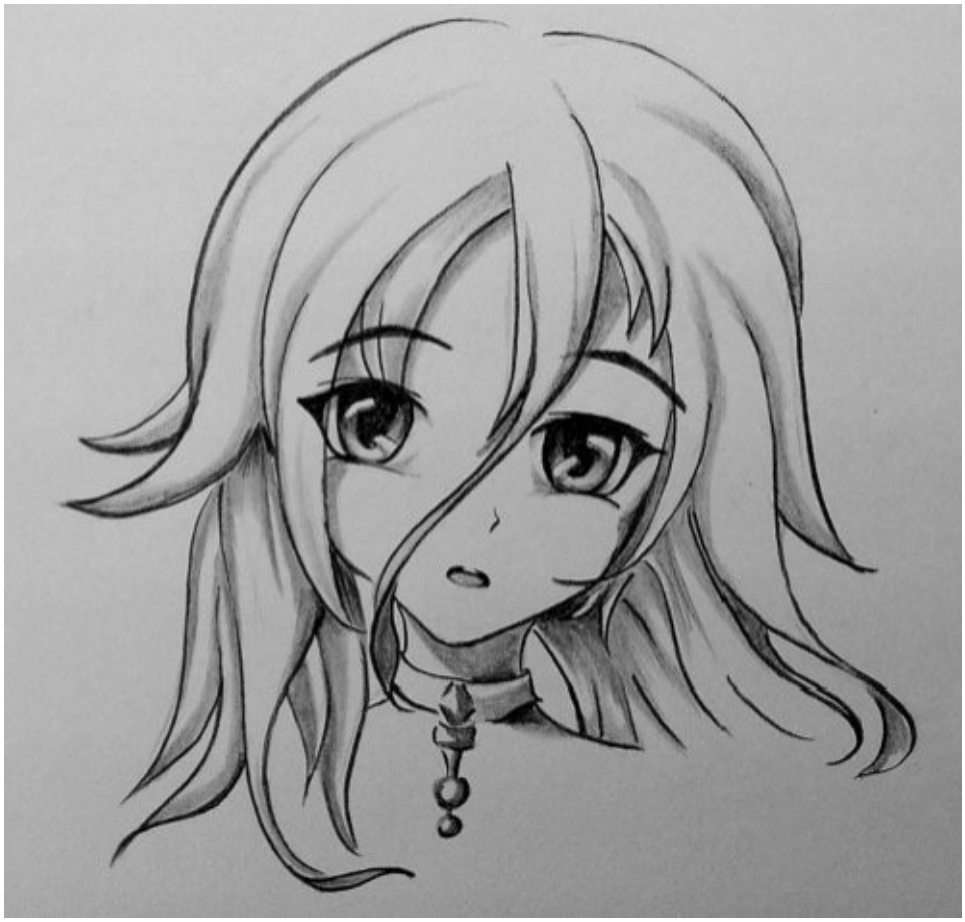


Step 6:

Give shading in the hairs. Use lines of different thicknesses to emphasize various lengths of hairs.

We have not depicted any clothing in this girl so that the face remains the point of focus.

The Manga character, Nanoha, is complete.



Chapter 5 - How to Draw Carmen?

Carmen is a young girl, who is shown happy over something. Her body posture is shown like she is walking and has suddenly turned to look at something pleasant.

Step 1:

The eyes of this girl are big and bright. Use good measurements and perspective draw her eyes, nose and mouth. Her hairs are flowing in the air due to the action her body has taken. Try to depict the motion in your lines. There is a cap on her head too.

Step 2:

Draw the eyes of Carmen. Darken the outlines and depict the pupils with an empty oval in the eyes. The corners of her eyes are stretched outwards a little. The overall shape of the eyes is box like, they are oval. Draw an empty space to show reflection in her eyes. Maintain the perspective in drawing and shading of her eyes.

Draw some hairs falling on her forehead and nearly touching the eyes.

Step 3:

Give a final outline to the hair, clothing and the cap on her head.

Step 4:

Give shading in her body, face, cap and hairs. Keep some of the area in the hair blank. Sometimes, only lines are enough to depict things.

Notice the shadow of clothing falling on her stomach.

The Manga character, Carmen, is complete.

Chapter 6 - How to Draw Lara?

Lara is a cheerful teenage girl. She is shown here winking at someone with her hands making a thumbs-up gesture. She is wishing good luck to someone. Let us see how you can draw this beautiful Manga girl.

Step 1:

Draw the outline for Lara’s body, face and hairs. Her hairs are tied up in a thick pony tail. One of her eyes is closed due to winking action. The closed eye can be showed with arcs.

The hand which is making the thumbs up gesture is depicted a little bigger because it comes closer to the viewer when shown in proper perspective.

Step 2:

Draw the eyes of Lara. The pupil is bigger and darker than the rest of the left eye. The reflection is shown with empty spaces. These spaces are drawn bigger to express the delight she has in her eyes.

Draw the closed eye with two arcs. The lower arc is thicker than the upper arc. Give shading in the mouth as well. Draw the outline for her hair and the collar of her shirt.

Step 3:

Draw the outline for the remaining hairs and her hand. The hairs are shown bulky and thick. Draw the hair tie used to make a pony tail.

Step 4:

Give shading in the hairs of Lara. The hand is also shaded with a lighter pencil. Notice the shadow of her face on the neck. Similarly, some shadow of her hair is also falling on her face.

Complete the shading wherever required.

The Manga character, Lara, is complete.

Conclusion

Doesn’t it seem easy to draw Manga characters after going through the tutorials given in this book? Some of the characters do seem intimidating but it is extremely easy to draw them if you go step by step. Most of the creatures of the Manga world are very expressive and they express their emotions by means of their facial traits.

In **How to Draw Manga for Beginners**, you must have noticed that the eyes are given significant emphasis and the other traits of the body and clothing remain in check. It is done so that the attention of the viewer is not surpassed from the face to other things.

If you have not Manga people before, do not worry at all. Since there are not many things that you have to focus here, you can master them easily. You might have been drawing something from school time. Scribbling on the last page of your notebook is the first step to drawing. However, many artists get stuck with the same subject matter. It is important to break this routine and try new things.

Now, when you sit to actually create something, you might have noticed that the same things come to your mind again and again. And, you end up drawing things that you have drawn a zillion times before.

You can try some prompts which can break your old habits and give you new subject matter to draw. For example, when you want to practice Manga creatures, you can open your family album and pick up one person, just randomly or deliberately, however you want. Recreate them and use Manga features to express their feelings as shown in the photograph.

You can also create a new photo album or a complete new series of a story using this method. You can also use your own photographs to utilize this method. Prompts like this are very effective in creating something absolutely fresh.

Another method is to draw something from your dreams. Yes, this method is actually very effective. Keep a sketchbook and a pencil on your bedside. The moment you wake up, your dreams are fresh in your mind. Use your dreams to sketch a draft right then because there are high chances that you will forget your dreams after just 5 minutes, once you indulge in your routine.

If you think that you do not dream at all sometimes, you can draw whatever you see first just after opening your eyes. The perspective and frame of mind at that moment is completely different from the perspective of your mind during the rest of the day. Give them a Manga character later when you sit to draw again.

Recall your memories from your childhood and recreate them in the Manga world. You can even use your pet as your inspiration. If the pet is not very stable, use a picture of your pet and give it a Manga look.

All these methods are very effective in giving a boost to your drawing. Manga drawing does not require much effort. Trust yourself and give yourself a chance to recreate a whole new world of Manga.

Thank you!

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